ぼくは麻理のなか ③

押見修造

I'm in the Mari
#3
Shuzo Oshimi

双葉社
ACTION COMICS

ぼくは麻理のなか 3

押見修造

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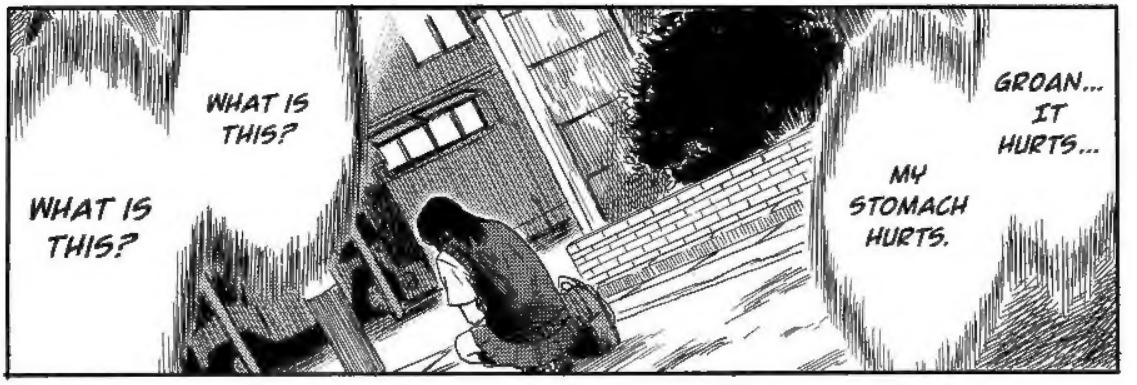
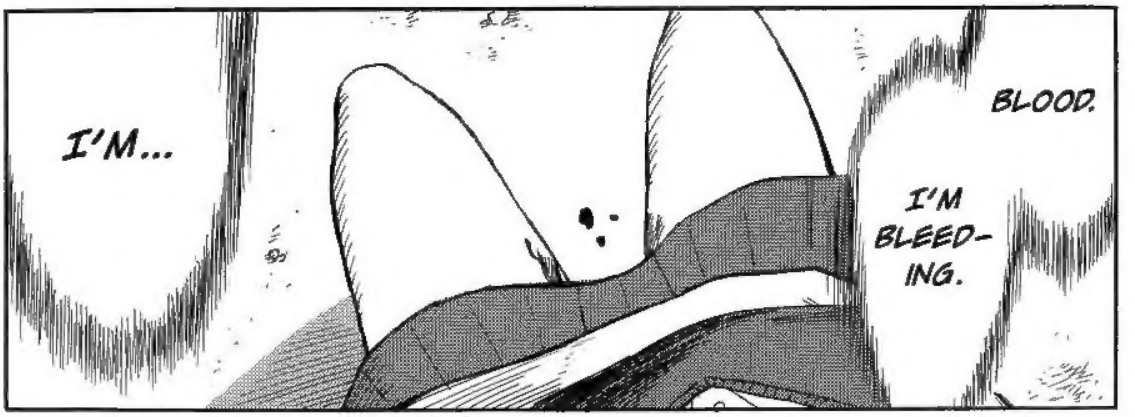
CHAPTER 18: THE TIME FOR CONFRONTATION

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
AAAH...
UHHH...

AAAAH...
AAH...

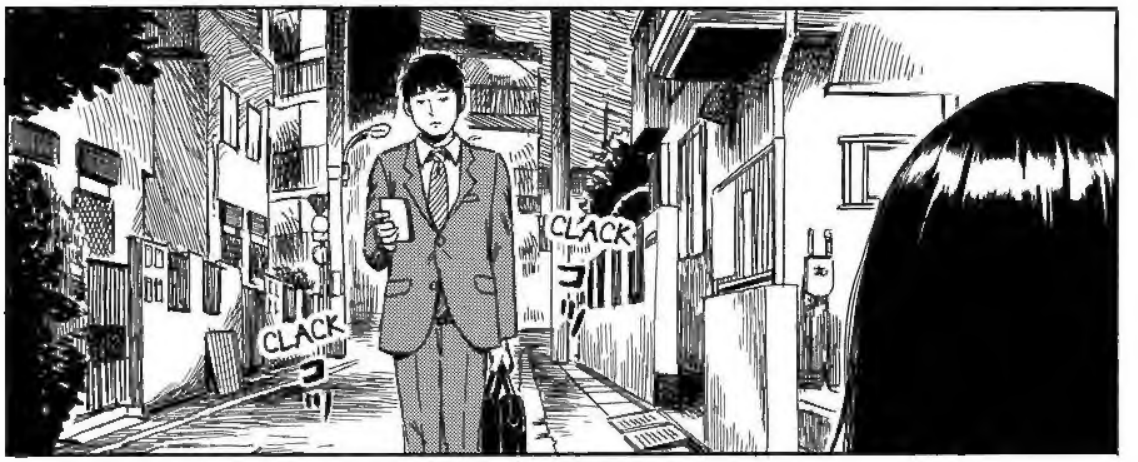

WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT IS THIS?
GROAN... IT HURTS...
MY STOMACH HURTS.


I'M...
BLOOD.
I'M BLEED-ING.

THIS IS WHAT A PERIOD IS?!
MY PERIOD?!
IS THIS A PERIOD?!

I'M NOT SICK OR INJURED OR ANYTHING?!
REALLY?!

CLACK
コ
CLACK
コ
コ


CLACK
コ
CLACK
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CLACK
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CLACK
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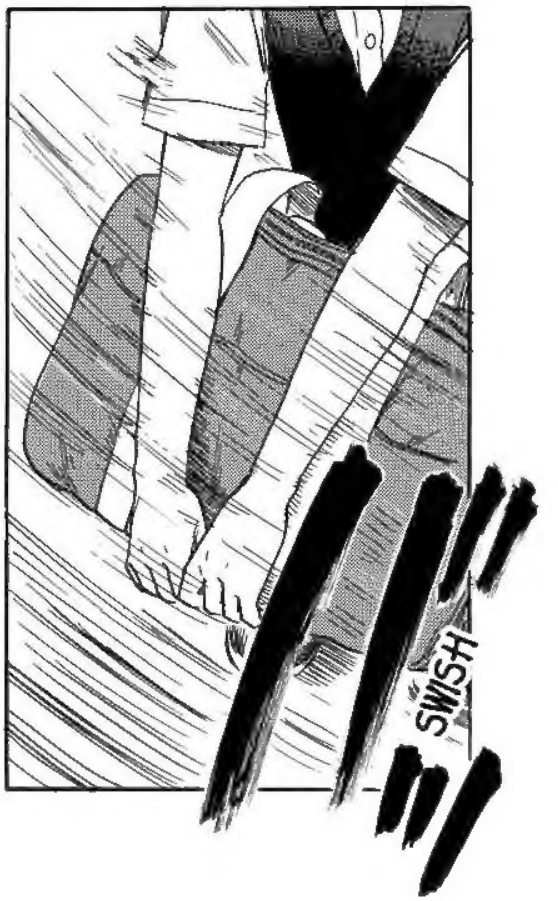
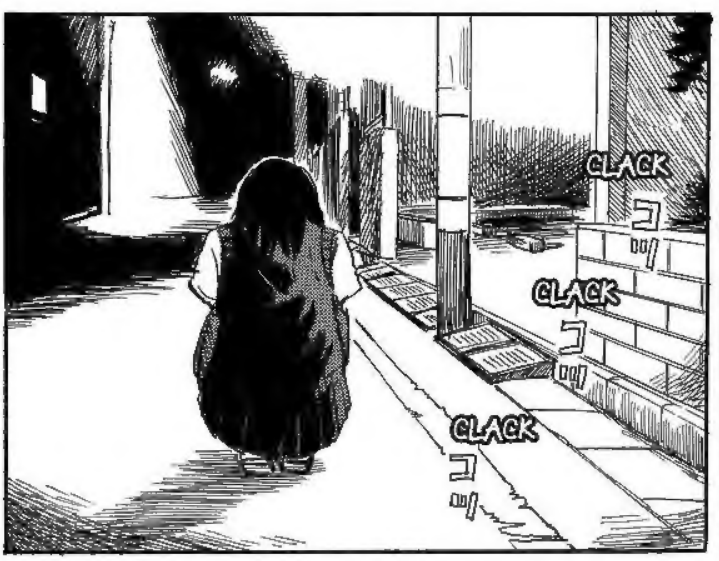
コ
CLACK


SWISH

DO YOU FEEL SICK?

EXCUSE ME...
ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M FINE! REALLY!
UH... UM...
I...


CLACK
コ
CLACK
コ
CLACK
コ

...
UH... OKAY.

よろ…
STAGGER

GROAN...

HUFF...

UNGH...

UNH...

HFF...

HUFF

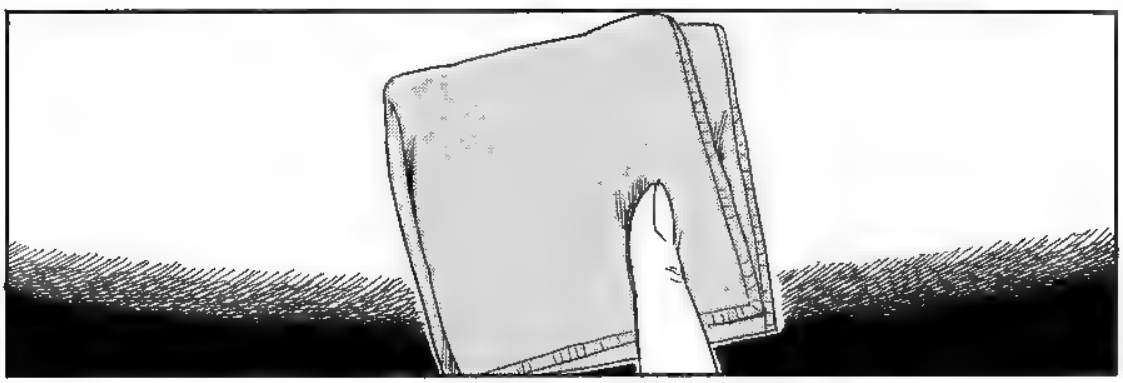
HUFF...

GROAN.

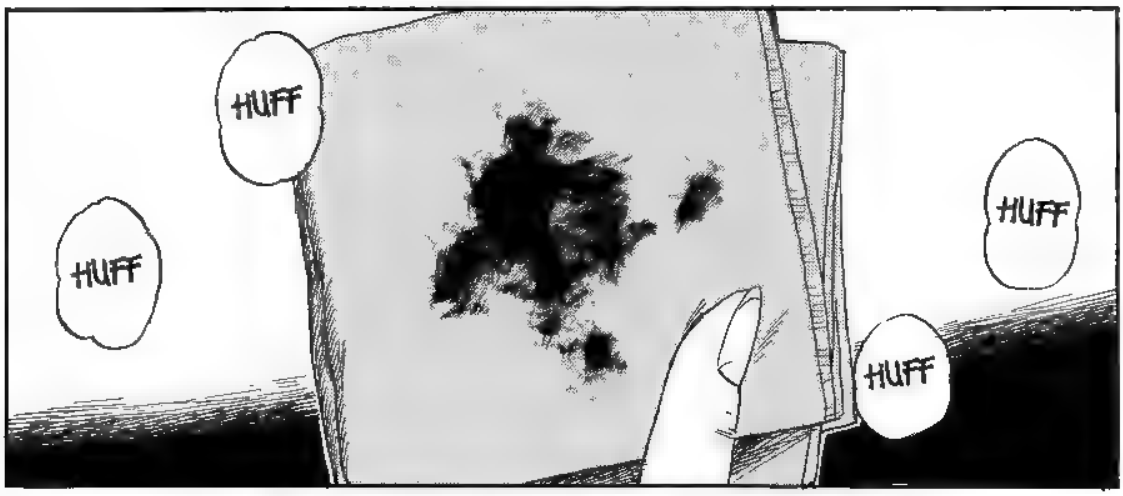
WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I DO?

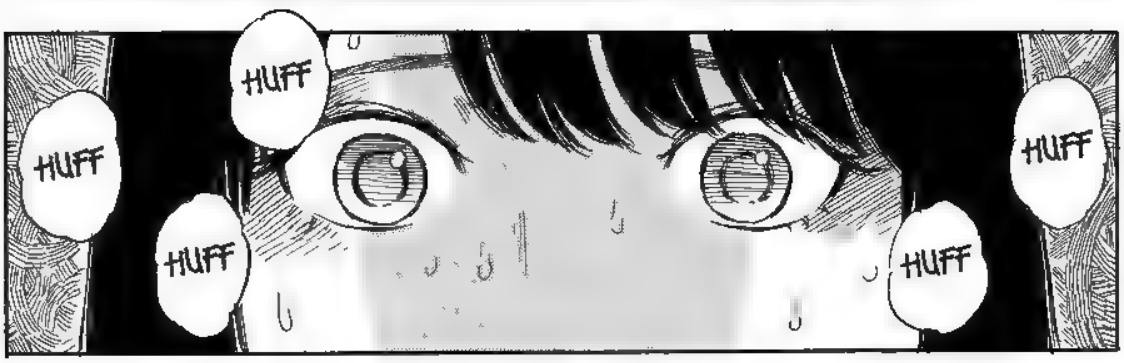
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

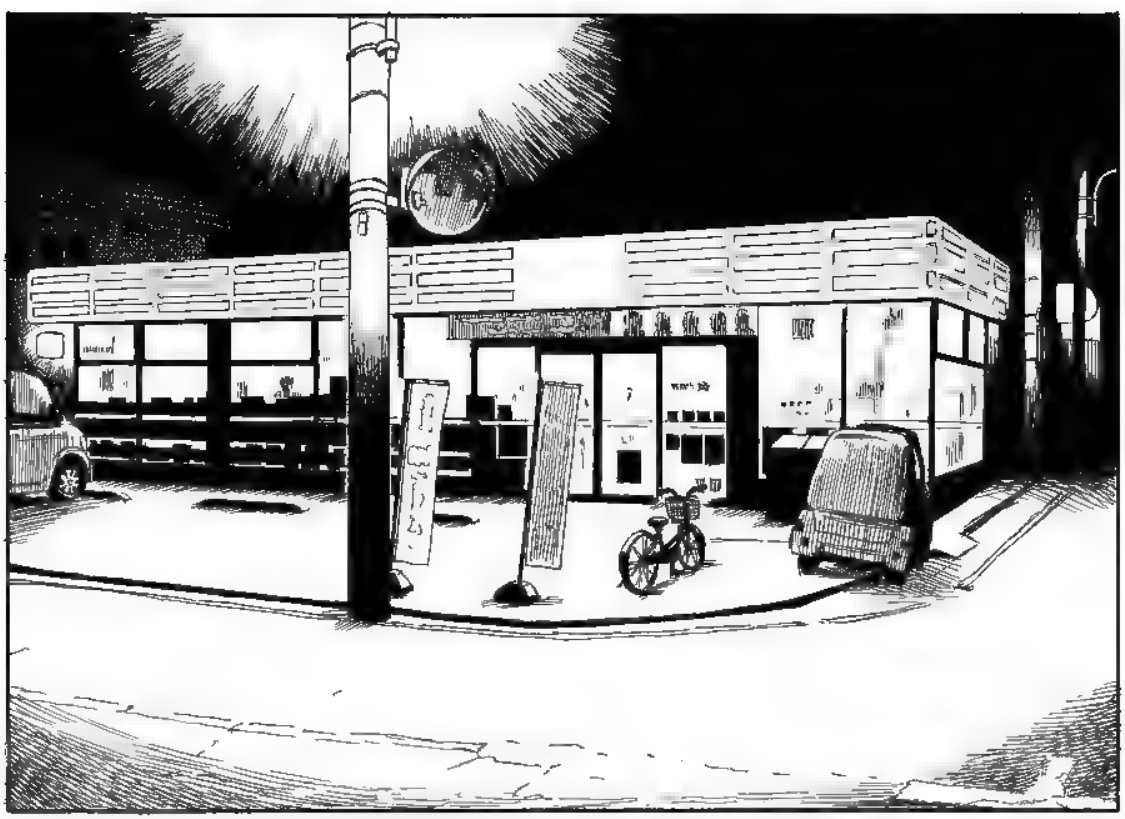
USE A HANDKER-CHIEF...
AH! HAND-KERCHIEF!



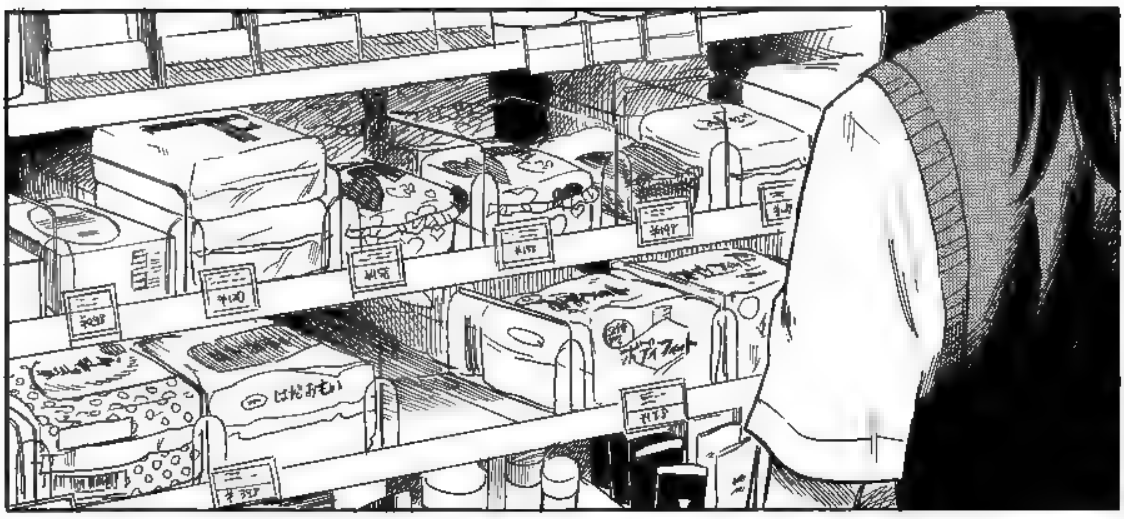
I'M SORRY...

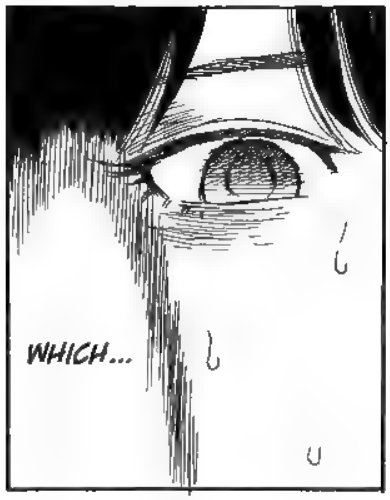

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF



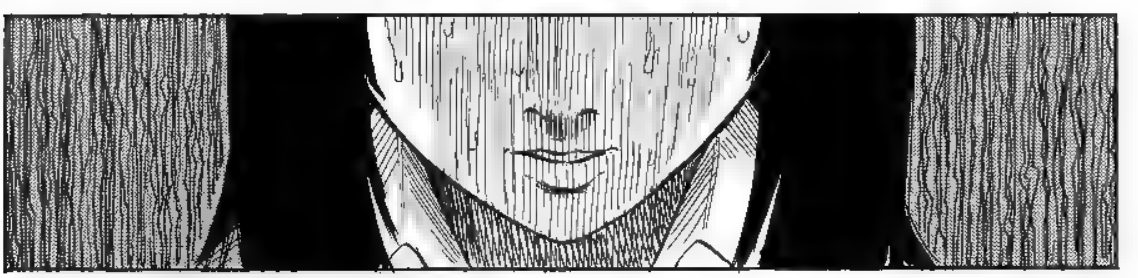
STAGGER
よろ…
ガ
WHIRRR




WHICH…

WHICH ONE AM I SUPPOSED TO BUY?
WHICH ONE?
WHICH ONE?

にゅるっ…
DRIP



HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

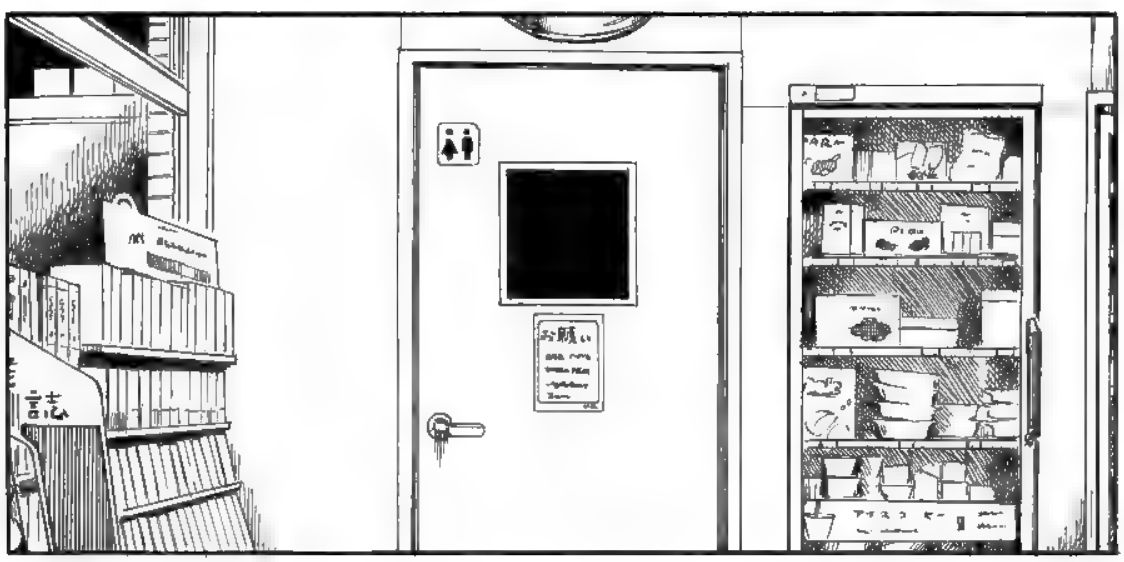
SOME-THING JUST CAME OUT...
SOME-THING CAME OUT!!

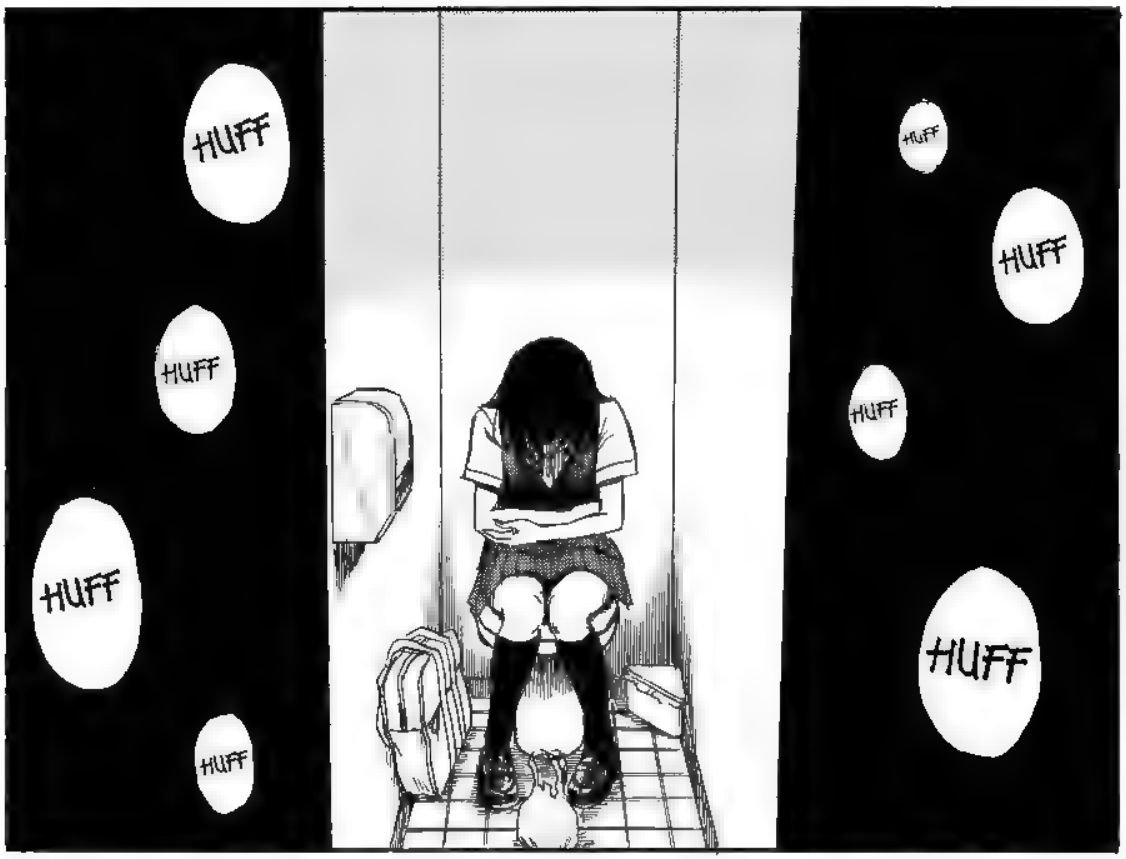
GRAB
ガッ
ぴょこ
WOBBLE
ぴょこ
WOBBLE
ぽん
PAT
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WEL...
COME...

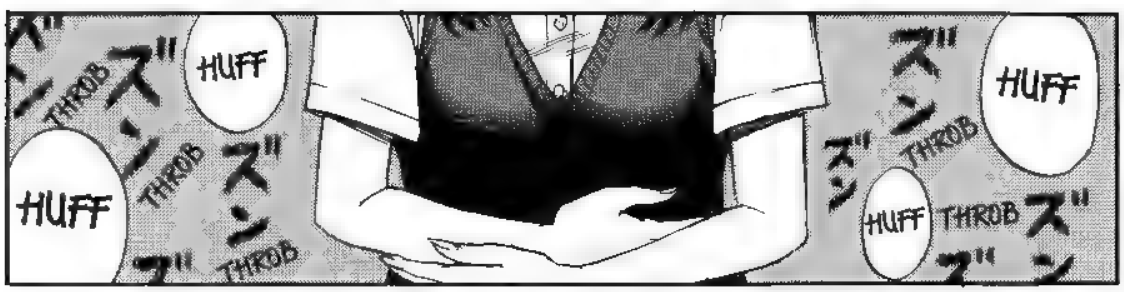
UM...

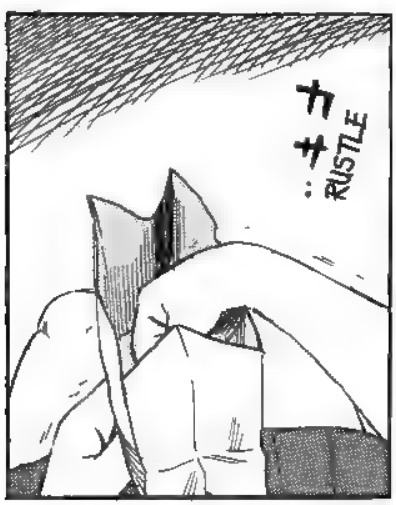
THAT'S 178 YEN.
ガサ
RUSTLE

PLEASE...
...LET ME USE YOUR BATHROOM.

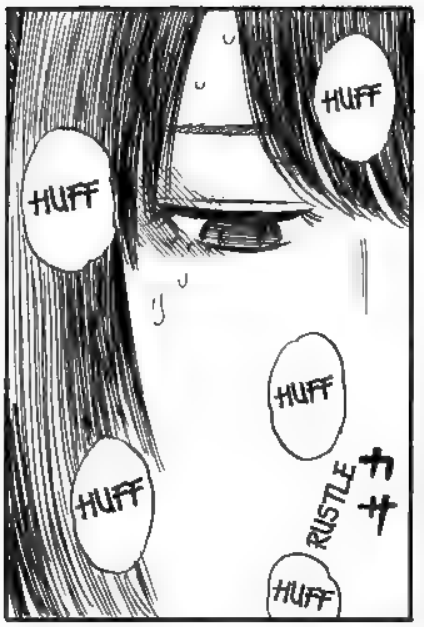


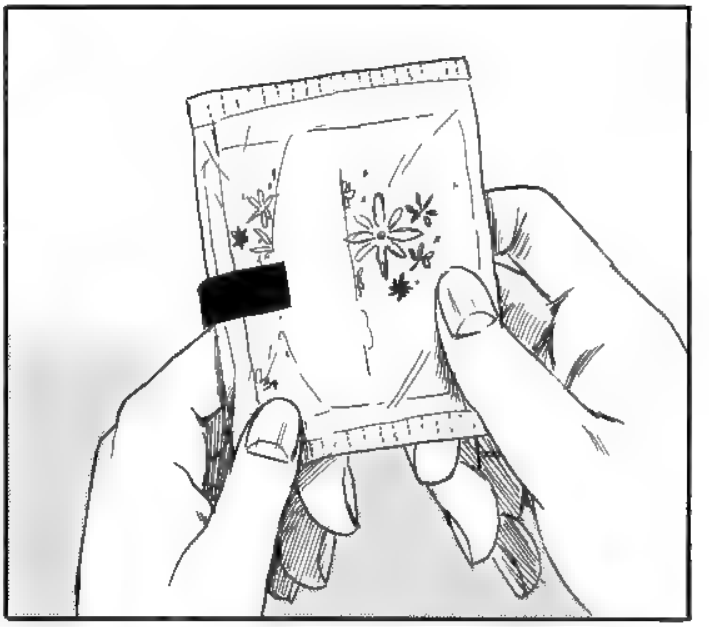

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

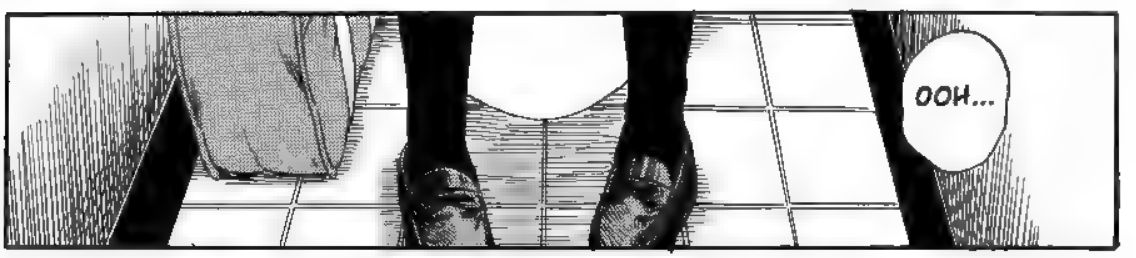

HUFF
HUFF
THROB
THROB
THROB
HUFF
HUFF
THROB
THROB


カサ
RUSTLE

IT HURTS...
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
RUSTLE
HUFF

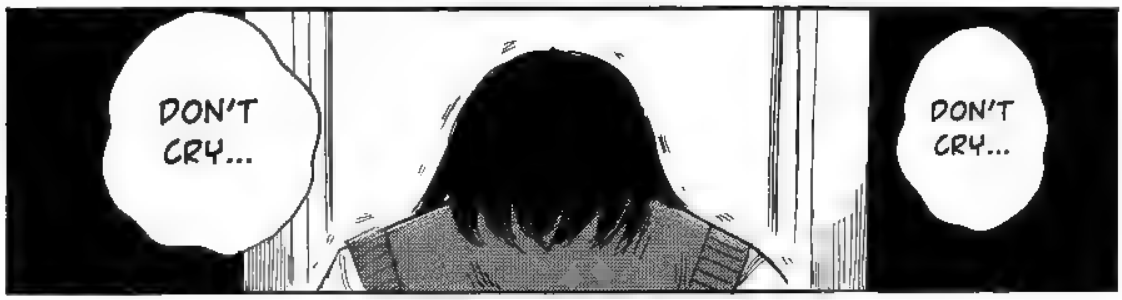



OOH...

URRGHHH...

URRGHH...

I'M SORRY!
SORRY...
I'M SORRY!
SNIFF SOB
I'M SORR...
I'M SORRY!
I'M SO SORRY...
I'M SO SORRY...



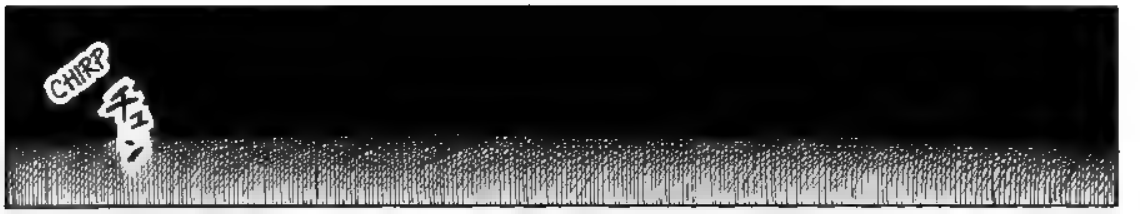
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP MARI-SAN!

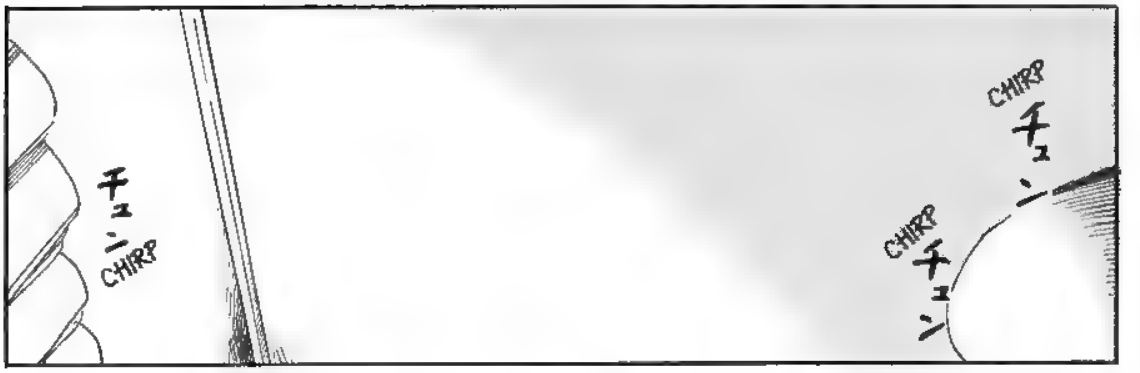
DON'T CRY!

HUFF
HUFF
SLIDE
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
SLIDE
HUFF

チャ…
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
チャ
RUSTLE
チャ

CHAPTER 19: MARI'S EVERYDAY LIFE


CHIRP
チュン

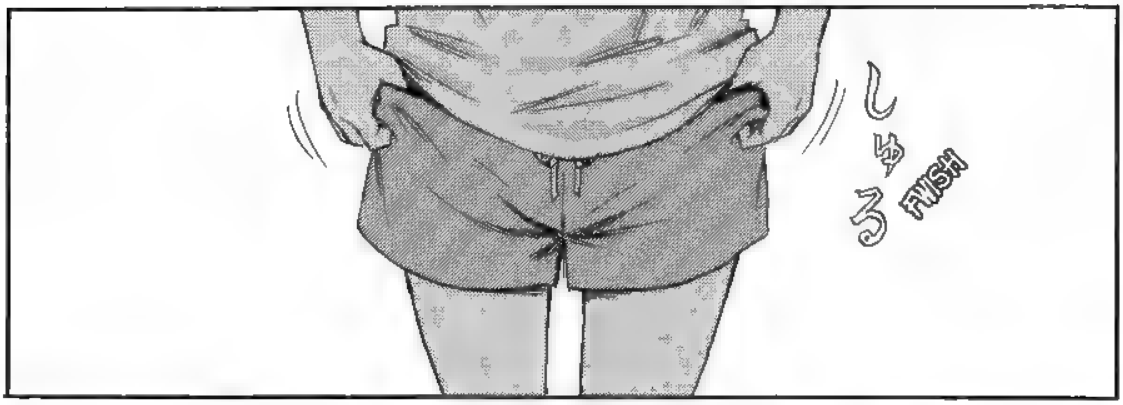

CHIRP
チュン
CHIRP
チュン
チュン
CHIRP

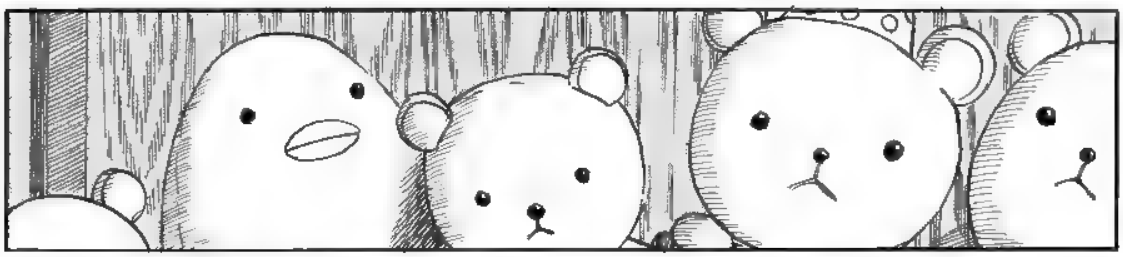
CHIRP
チュン
CHIRP
チュン

STAGGER
ふら…

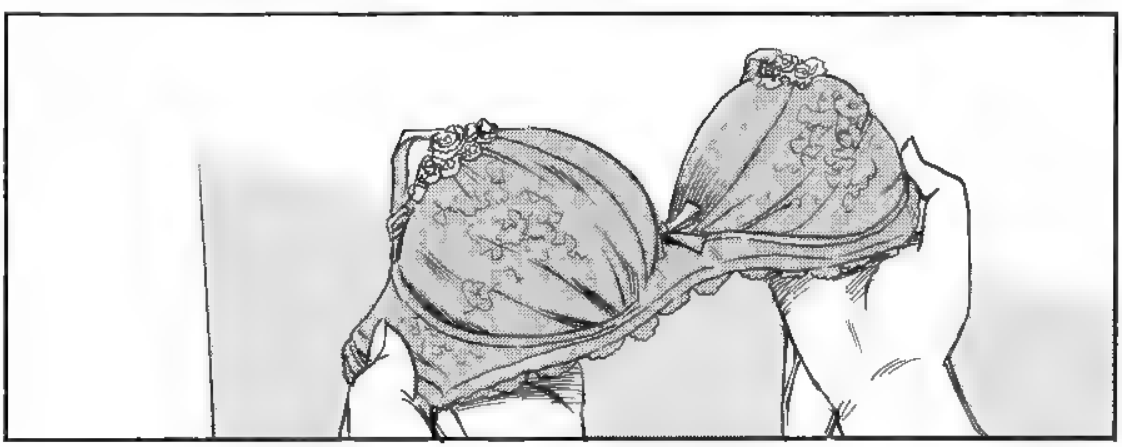
SLIDE
ズリ…

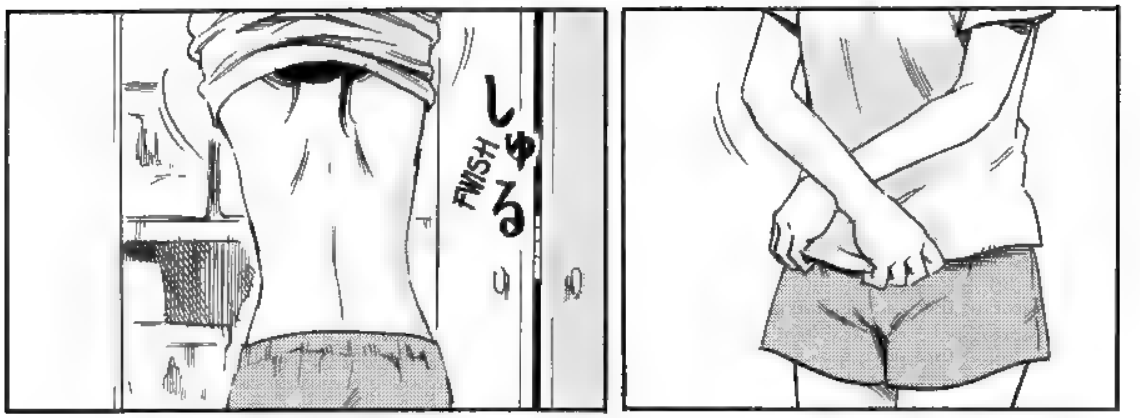
CRUMPLE
PEEL
PEEL
RUSTLE
TEAR
RUSTLE


しゅる
HUSH

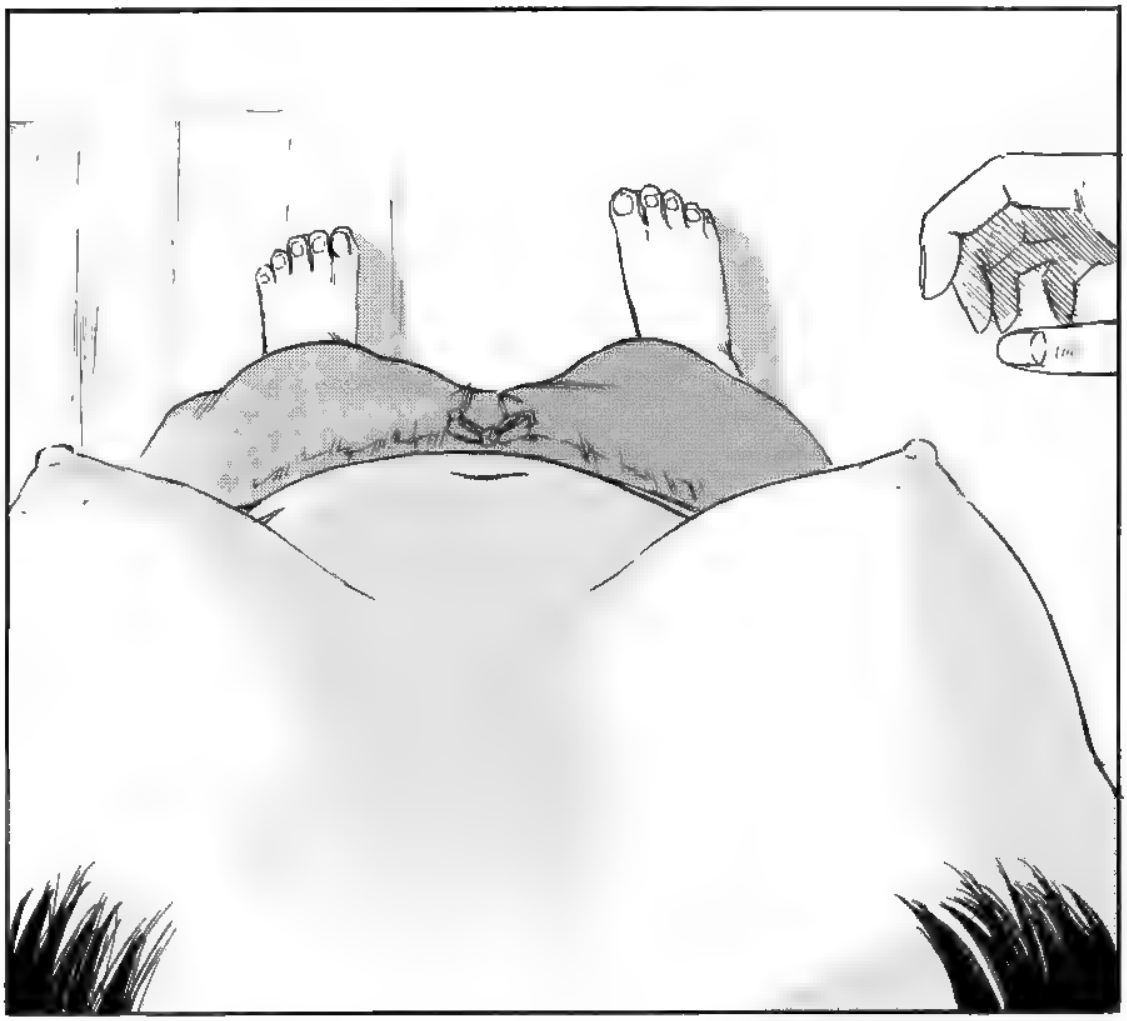


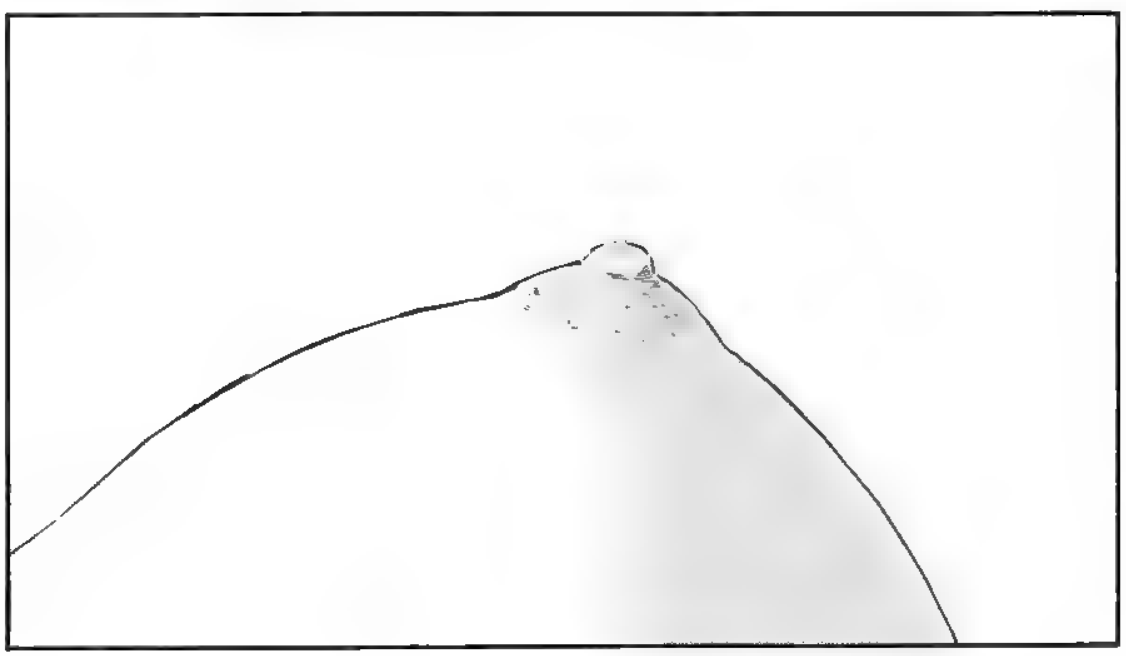
ガラ
RATTLE

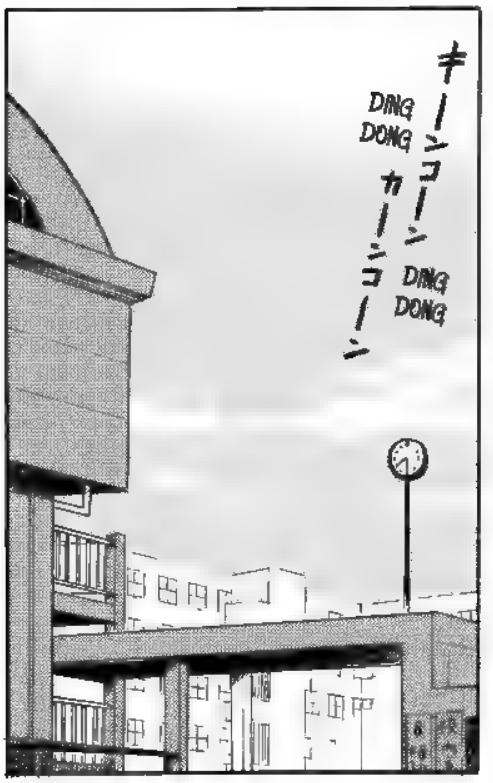



しゅる
FWISH

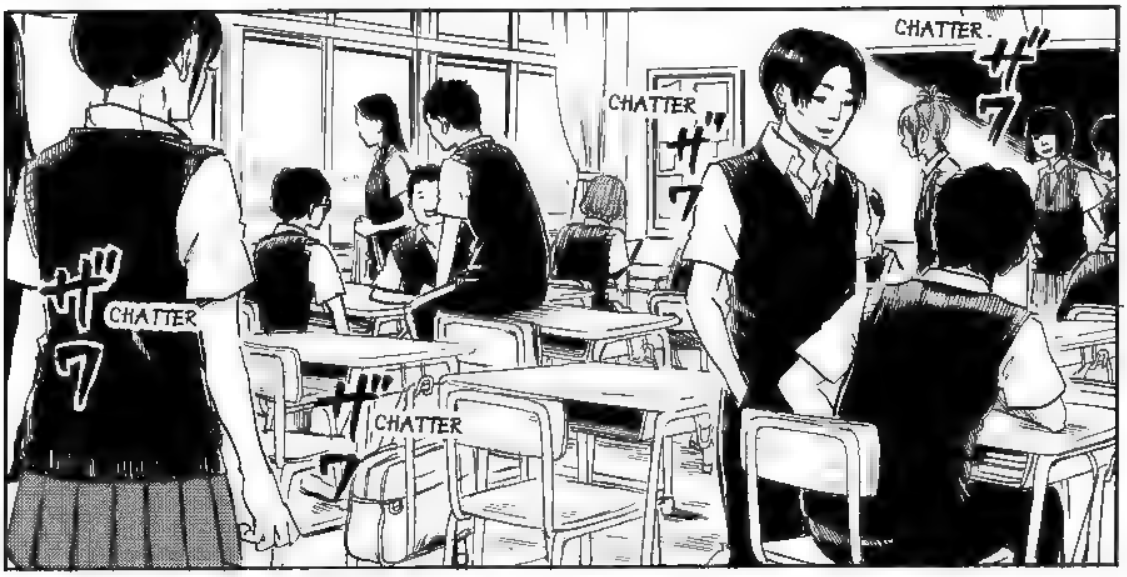
ファサ
FWAP

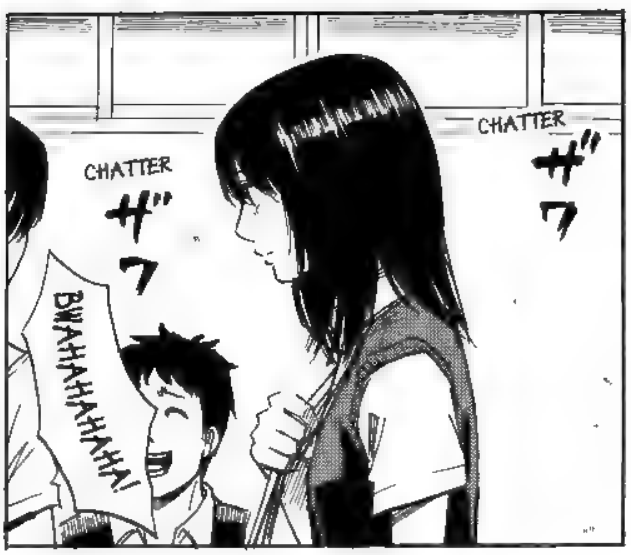




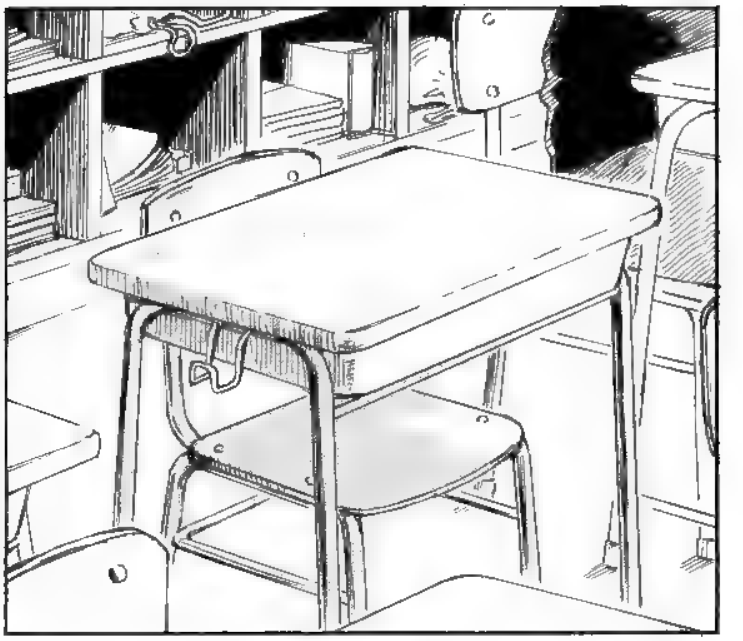

キーンコーン
DING DONG
カーンコーン
DING DONG

ガラ
RATTLE


CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER


CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
BWAHAHAHAHA!

YORI-SAN...
...ISN'T HERE.



YOU THINK?
I MEAN, YEAH, HE IS NICE...
HUH? COME ON, WHY NOT?
HIROKI-KUN'S A NICE GUY.

...BUT...

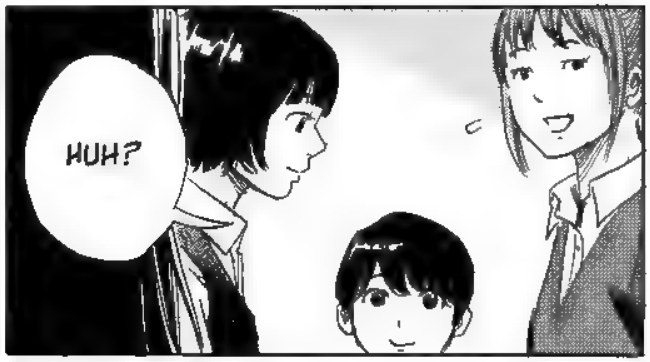
UM...
GOOD MORNING!

SO, THE OTHER DAY...

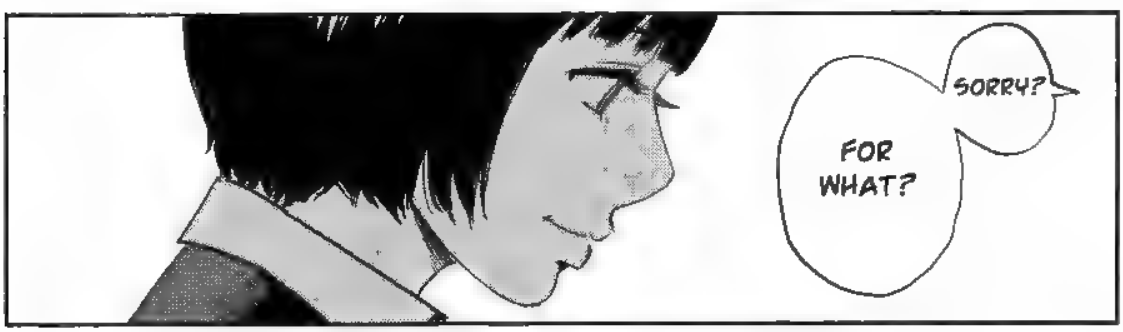
MORN-ING.
AH. MORN-ING.

UM...!
UH... UH...
...HIROKI CAME OVER...
...TO MY PLACE...

UH...

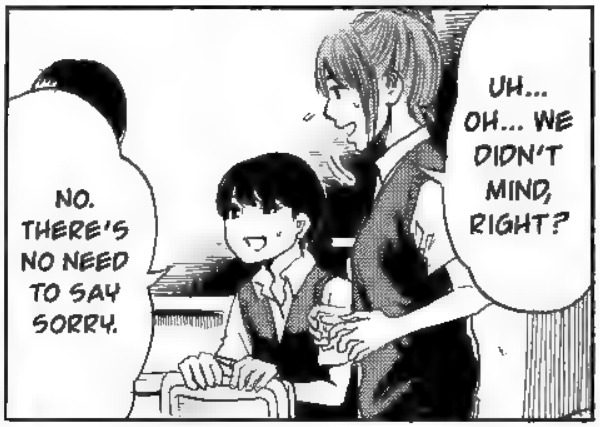

HUH?

I... I'M SORRY...
...ABOUT YESTERDAY.


SORRY?
FOR WHAT?

I GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY WITH THE KARAOKE...
UH... I MEAN...

IT'S JUST WE DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE LIKE THAT.


UH... OH... WE DIDN'T MIND, RIGHT?
NO. THERE'S NO NEED TO SAY SORRY.

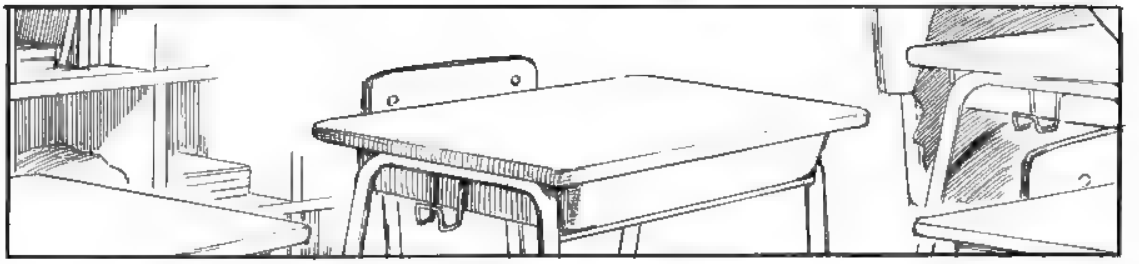
BUT NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT. I BET YOU DON'T GET STRESSED OUT MUCH.

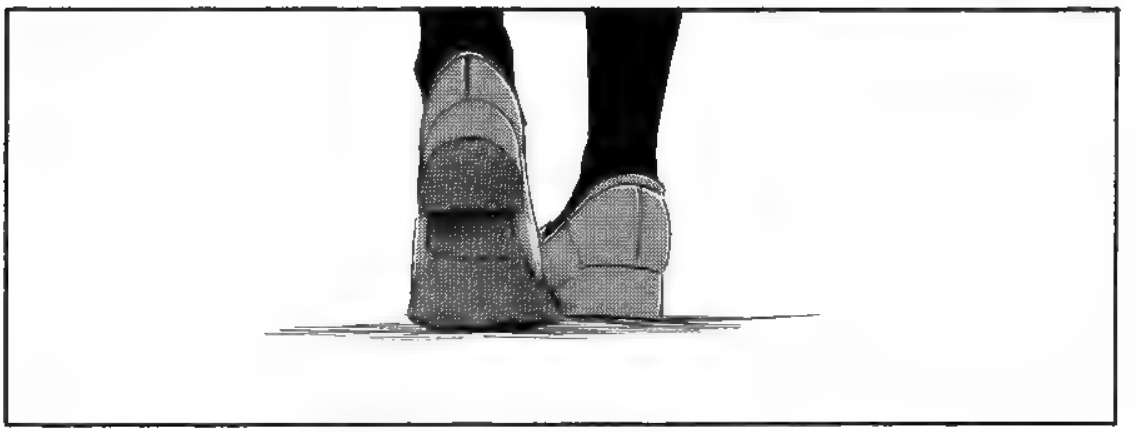
YOU KNOW, LIKE, FREE-SPIRITED.
I WAS SURPRISED, IS ALL.

HUH?
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?

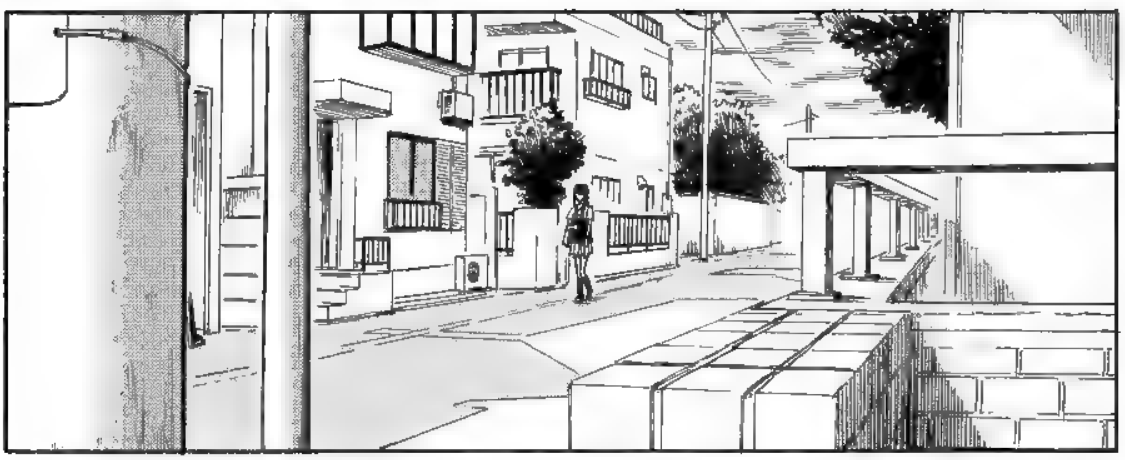
UH...
YEAH. ANYWAY, I AM SORRY...

OH, YEAH!
SO, HIROKI...





BYE!
SEE YA.



HUFF

HUFF

...FOR HER PHONE NUMBER OR ADDRESS OR ANY-THING.
...I DIDN'T ASK YORI-SAN...
COME TO THINK OF IT...

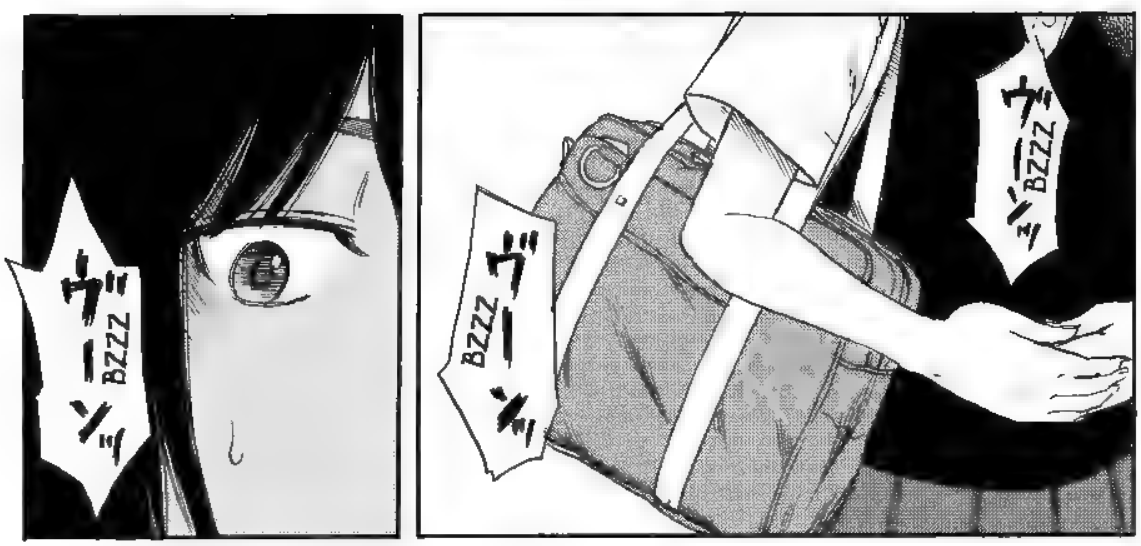
HANG...

HAVE TO HANG IN THERE...

HANG IN THERE...

HAVE TO HANG...
...IN THERE...

ブーン BZZZ


ブーン BZZZ
ブーン BZZZ

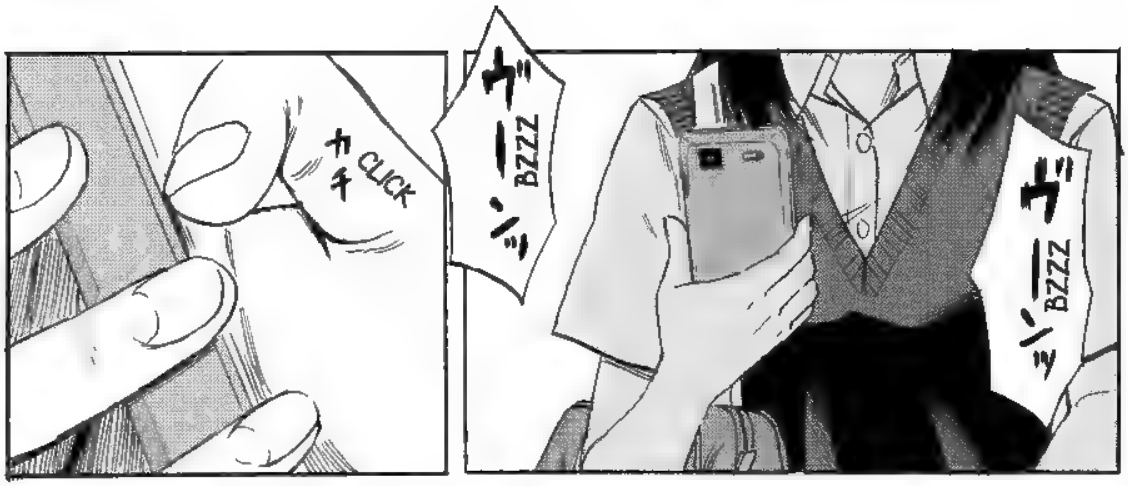
ブーン
BZZZ
ブーン
BZZZ

ブーン
BZZZ
ブーン
BZZZ

ブーン
BZZZ
ブーン
BZZZ
HIROKI-KUN
Mobile : 090-XXXX-XXXX

SLAP

HIROKI...

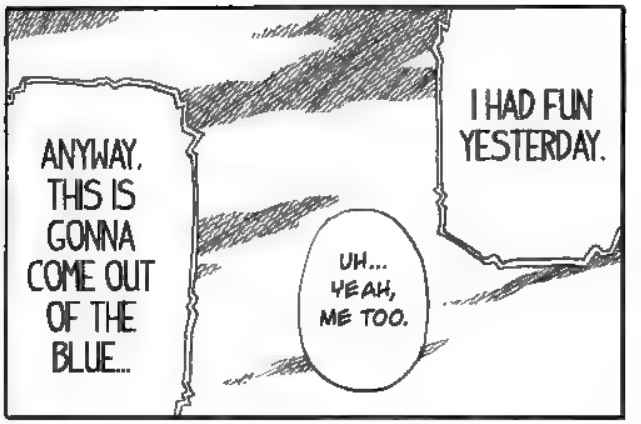

ブーン BZZZ
ブーン BZZZ
カチ CLICK

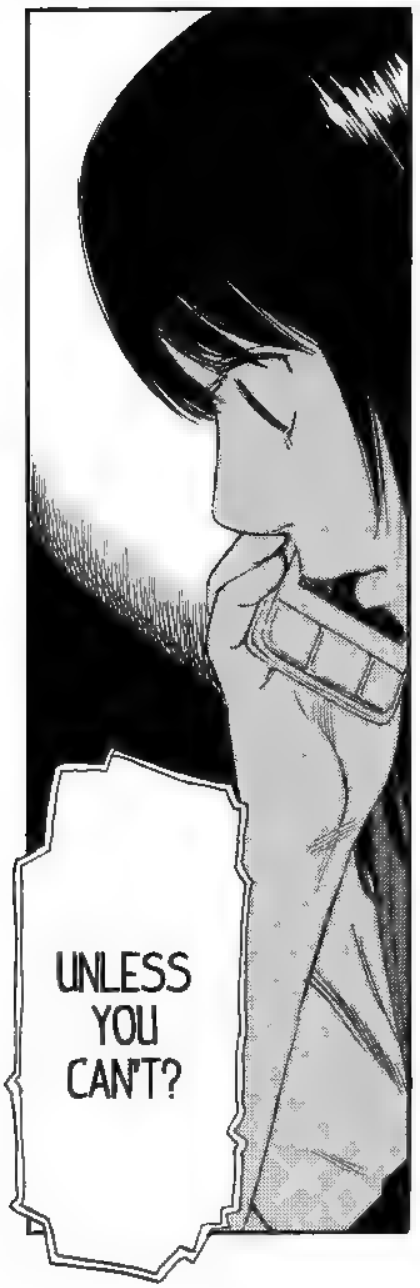
HELLO?
AH...

NOW'S FINE!
OH, SURE.

CAN YOU TALK NOW?
HELLO?

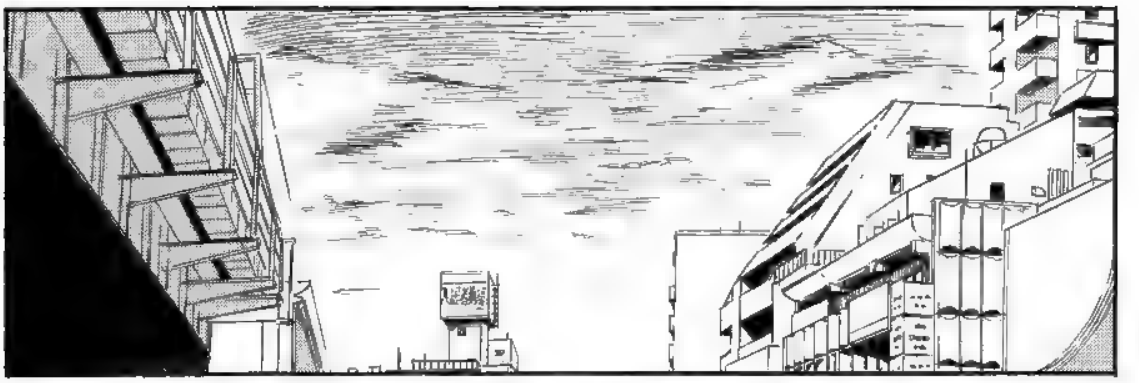
HM?

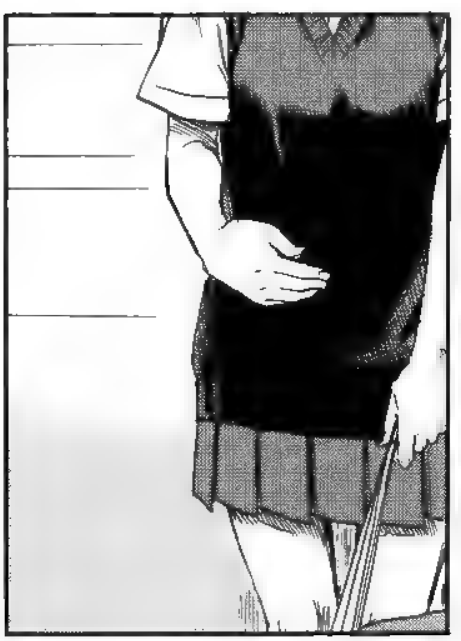

I HAD FUN YESTERDAY.
UH... YEAH, ME TOO.
ANYWAY, THIS IS GONNA COME OUT OF THE BLUE...


UNLESS YOU CAN'T?

...BUT CAN WE MEET UP NOW?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA ASK YOU.

CHAPTER 20: THE EYES SAY EVERYTHING





THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA ASK...
CAN YOU MEET ME RIGHT NOW?

JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
PLEASE!

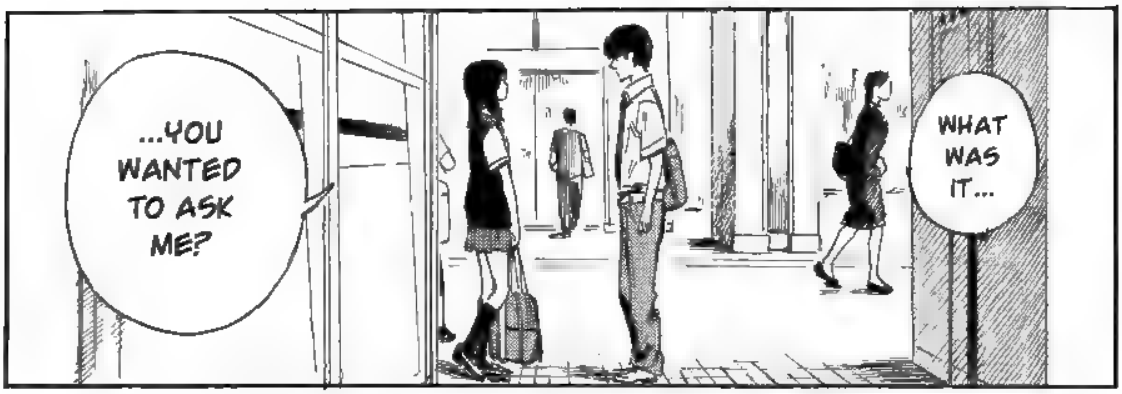
UM... BUT...
HUH?

BUT...
...

MARI-CHAN!

I DIDN'T MIND.

...FOR COMING.
THANK YOU...

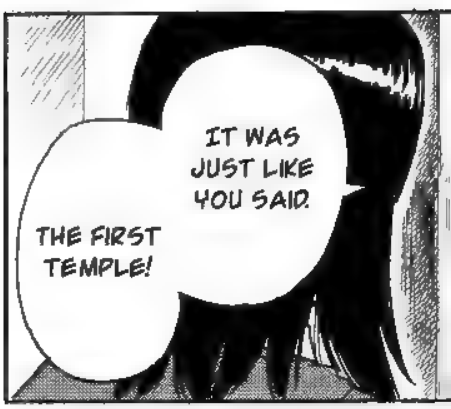

...YOU WANTED TO ASK ME?
WHAT WAS IT...

UM...
WHY DON'T WE SIT DOWN SOME-WHERE AND TALK?

WHAT CAN I GET YOU?
CLINK

SO, LISTEN...

UH... ME TOO.
ICED COFFEE, PLEASE.


THE FIRST TEMPLE!
IT WAS JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

I TRIED LOOKING AFTER I GOT BACK LAST NIGHT.

OH..
AHH...

WHY DON'T YOU...
SEARCH THE FIRST TEMPLE?
YEAH, RIGHT? FIGURE IT WOULD BE..
YEAH, THAT'S A GOOD ONE, TOO.
AGREED.

HUH?

UH... I KNOW, RIGHT?
I... I DIDN'T NOTICE IT EITHER, AT FIRST.

I TOTALLY MISSED IT ON MY OWN!
LIKE THE HIDDEN FLOOR...

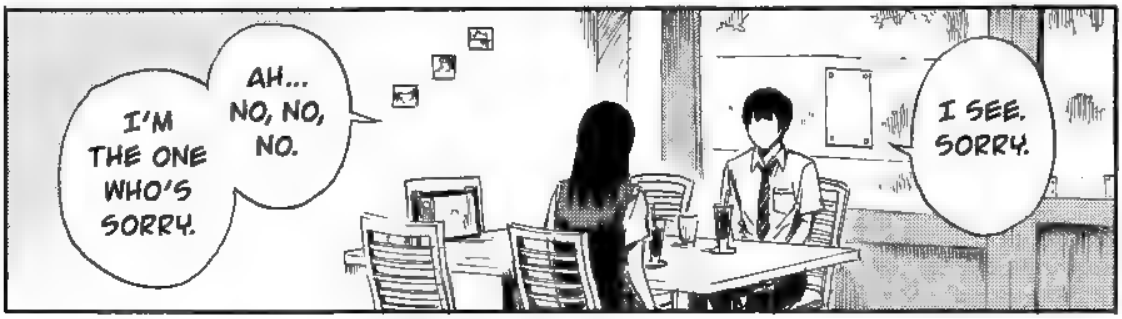
CLINK
コト...

HERE YOU GO.

UM...

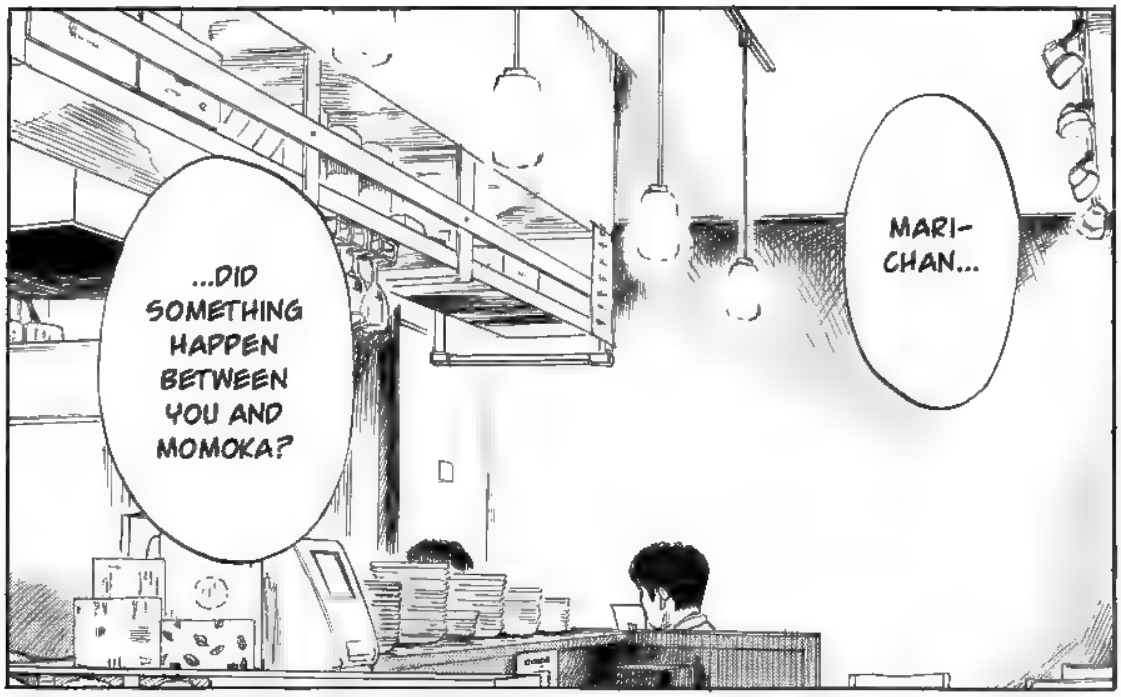
I HEARD THERE'S A WAY TO BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE?
AH... SO...
THERE'S ONE OTHER THING I WANTED TO ASK YOU.

OH...
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
SORRY. I DON'T REALLY HAVE MUCH TIME.

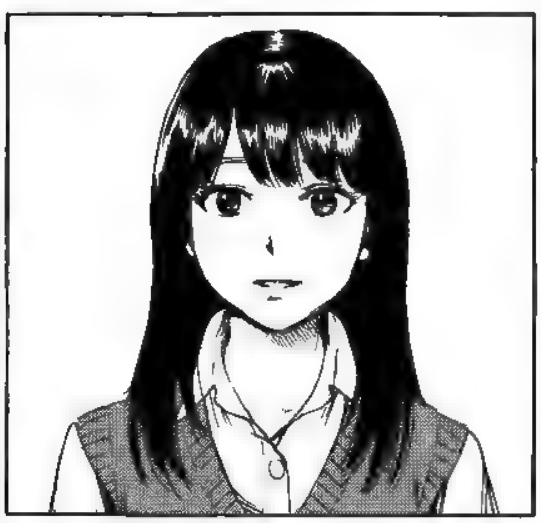

I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY.
AH... NO, NO, NO.
I SEE. SORRY.

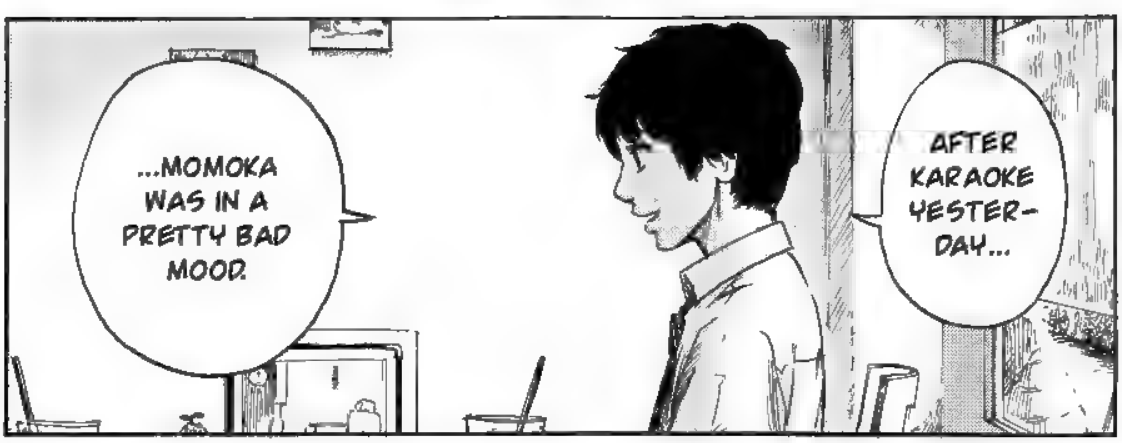
HERE GOES...

SLURP


MARI-CHAN...
...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND MOMOKA?

HUH?




AFTER KARAOKE YESTER-DAY...
...MOMOKA WAS IN A PRETTY BAD MOOD.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE FOUGHT LIKE THAT. HA HA...

WE ENDED UP GETTING INTO A FIGHT.
IT WAS LIKE SHE WAS ALL NERVES. NO MATTER WHAT I SAID, SHE'D FIND FAULT WITH ME.

...BEING MOMOKA'S BEST FRIEND, AND ALL.
SO I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU KNEW SOMETHING...

MM... NOPE. CAN'T THINK OF ANY-THING...
MM... WELL...

WELL?

AH!
CLINK
OH...
AH... SORRY.
MM?
SIP
...MOMOKA KNOWS...
MAYBE...
...BEFORE I ASKED HER.
I MEAN, THE FACT THAT I ASKED YOU OUT...

HUH?

WOW... I DON'T KNOW...
UH... OH, I SEE...

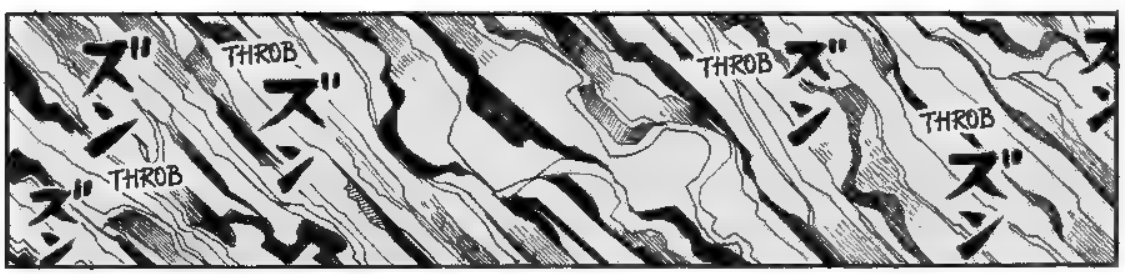
I'M HAPPY THAT WE'RE FRIENDS AGAIN AND CAN GO OUT LIKE THIS.
I SEE...
AH! JUST SO YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME ANYMORE.

SORRY. I KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
BUT THANKS.

HUH? UH... SURE.
WELL, IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING FROM MOMOKA, WOULD YOU LET ME KNOW?
OKAY.

OKAY?
NEXT TIME, LET'S PLAY VIDEO GAMES AT MY HOUSE.

UH... YEAH...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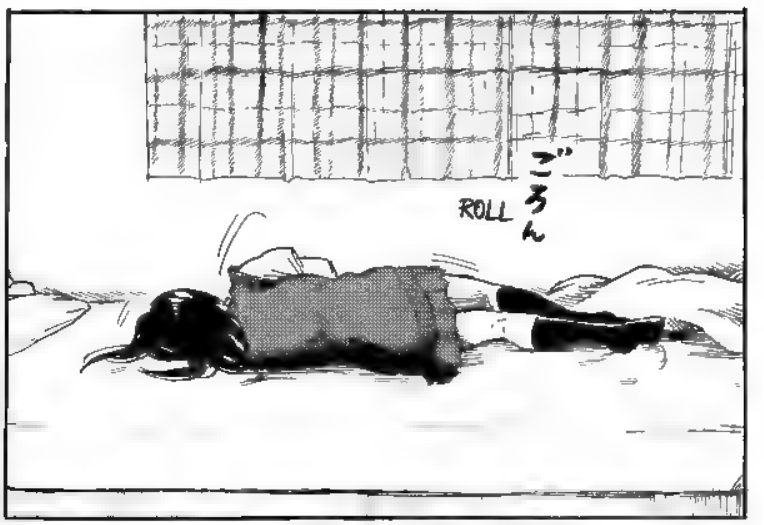
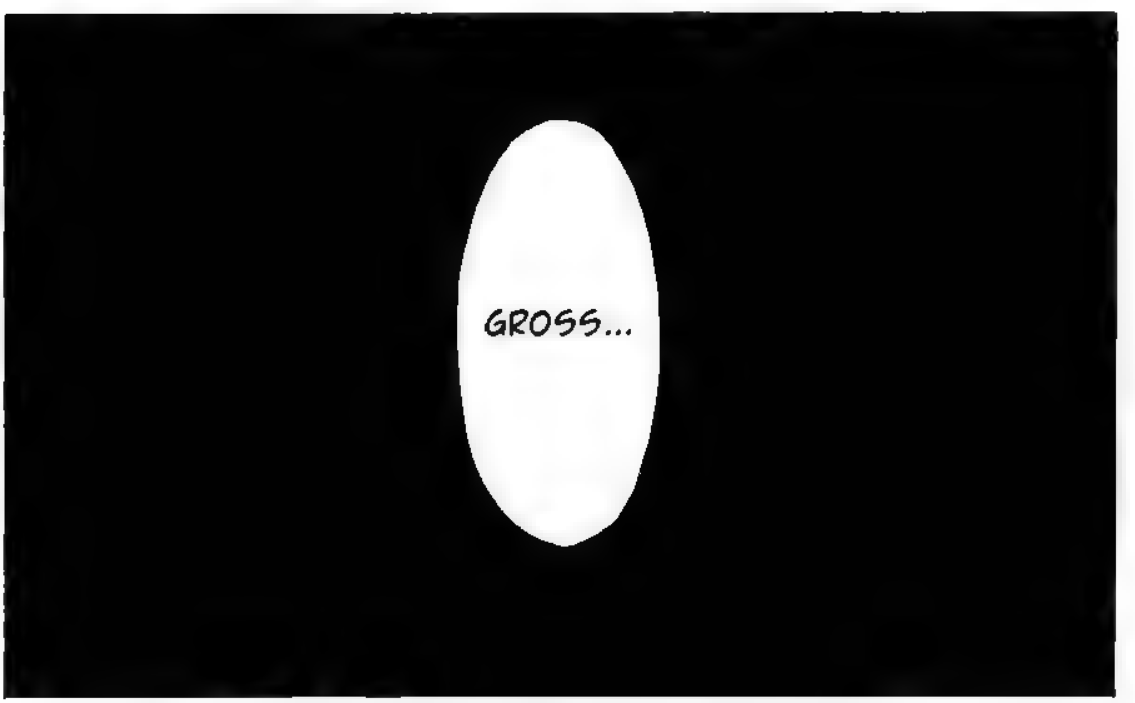
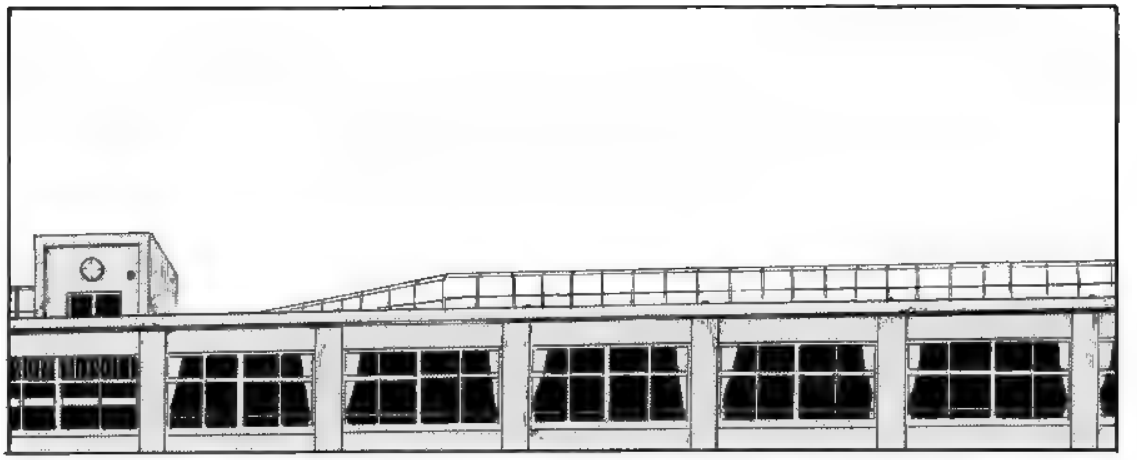
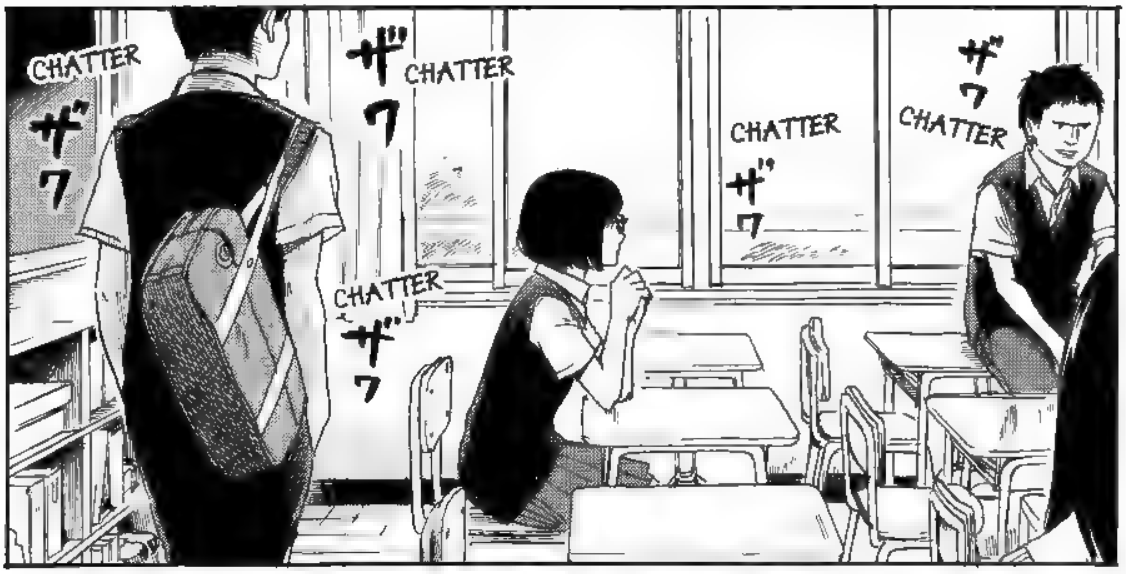

ごろん
ROLL


GROSS...



MORN-ING!
AH! MORN-ING!

ガラ
RATTLE


CHATTER
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CHATTER
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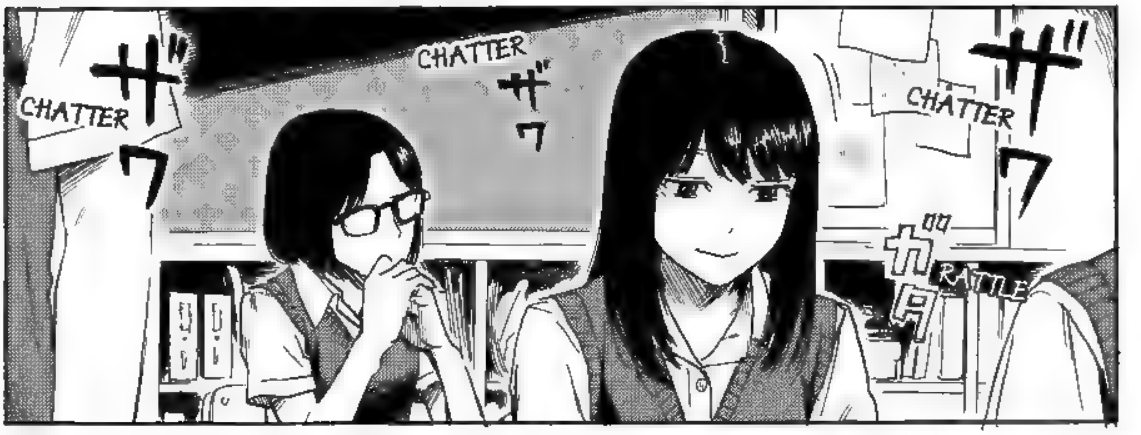
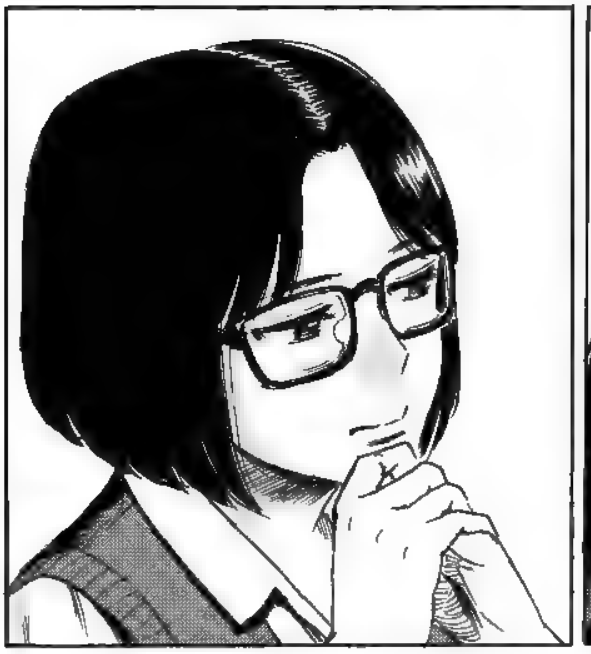
CHATTER
CHATTER
ザワ

AH...


CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
RATTLE



GLANCE
チラ

MARI!

GOOD MORNING.
AH...

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU LATER.

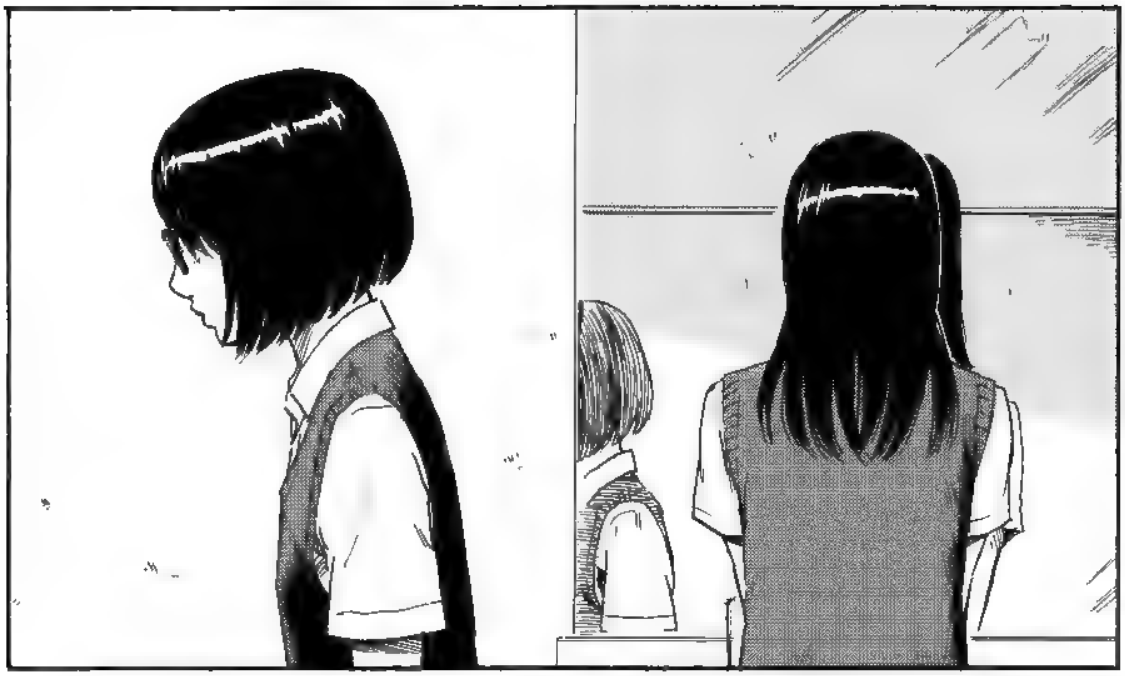
CHAPTER 21: BANISHED BY THE GIRLS

OH!
MARI-CHAN!

IT'S MARI-SAN.
SHE'S SO PRETTY.

MARI!

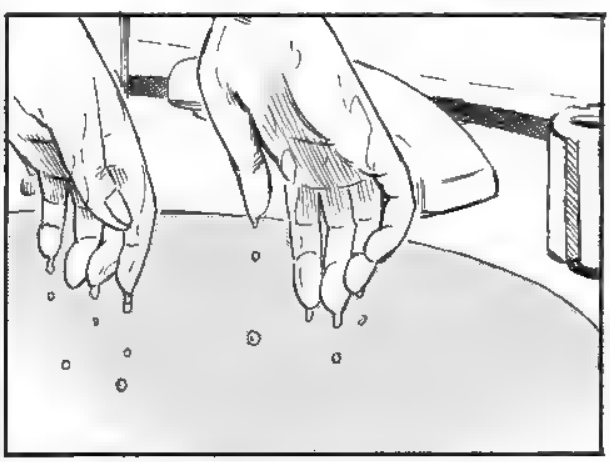
SSSSS
HUH? THAT'S WEIRD!
RIGHT?
FLUSH
I MEAN, THERE'S NO WAY!

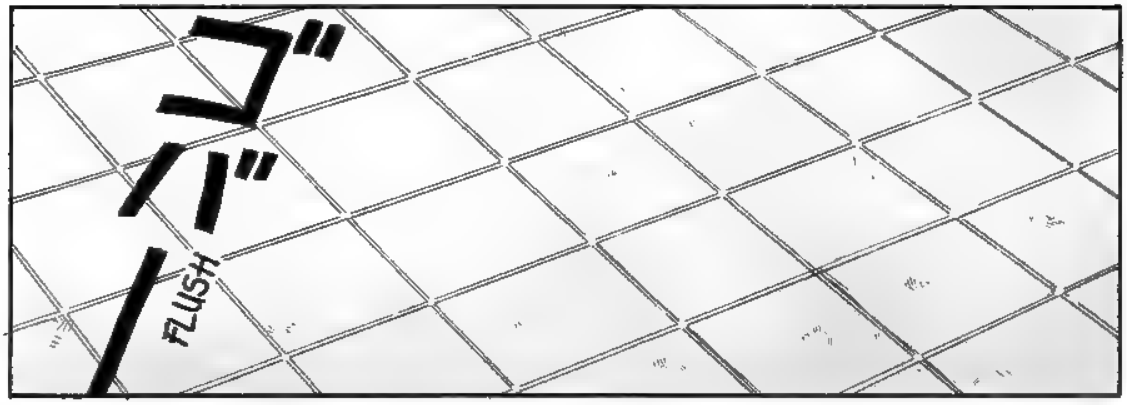


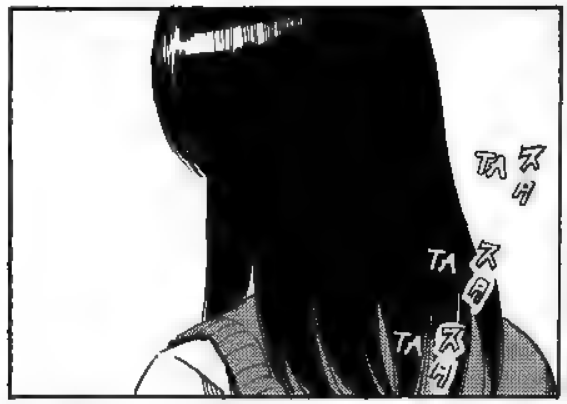
HA
HA
HA
HA

I KNOW...
YOU REALLY CAN'T NOW.

CREAK...




ゴバー
FLUSH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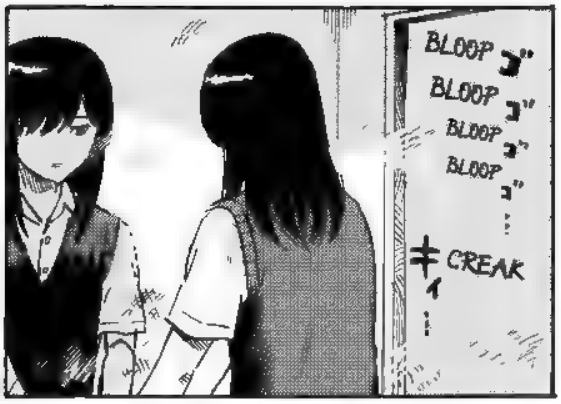
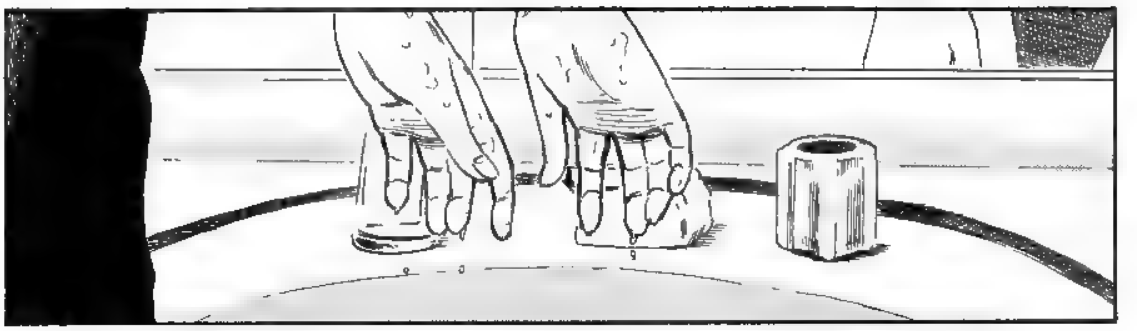
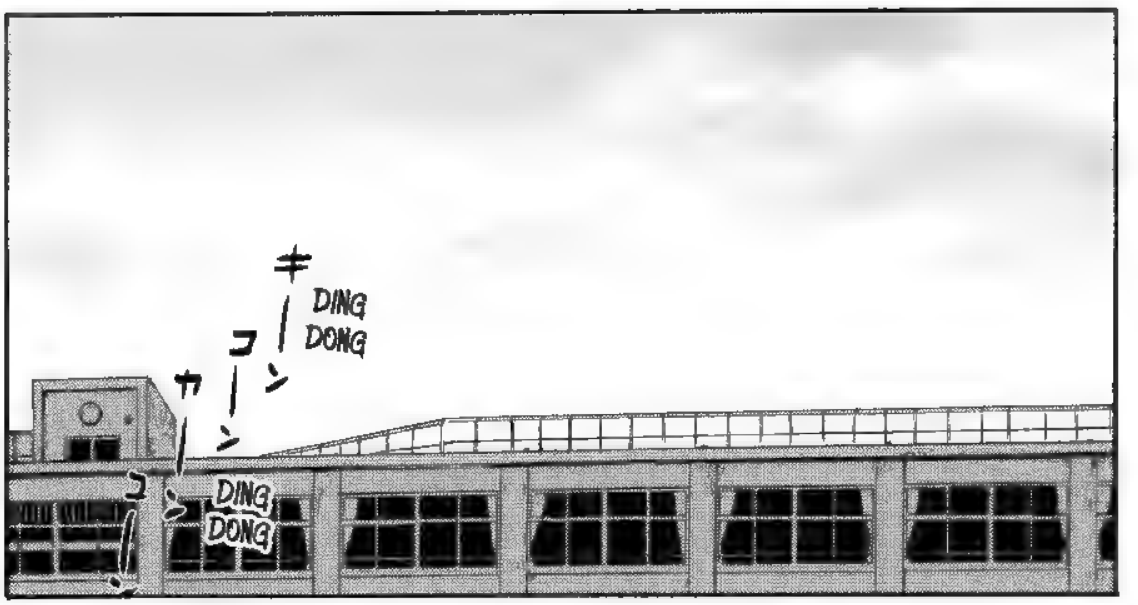
TA タ
TA タ


BLOOP ゴ
BLOOP ゴ
BLOOP ゴ
BLOOP ゴ
キイ CREAK

YORI-SAN.
I'M SORRY.

TA タ
TA タ
TA タ

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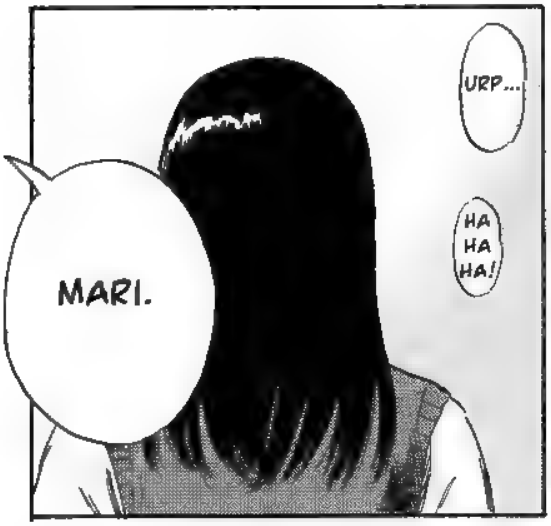
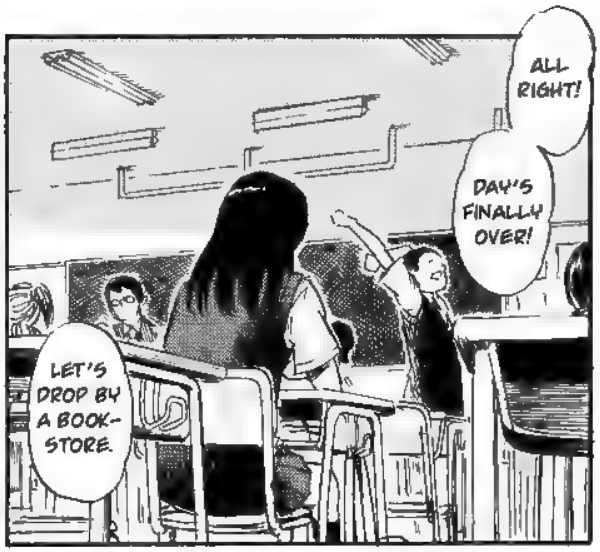
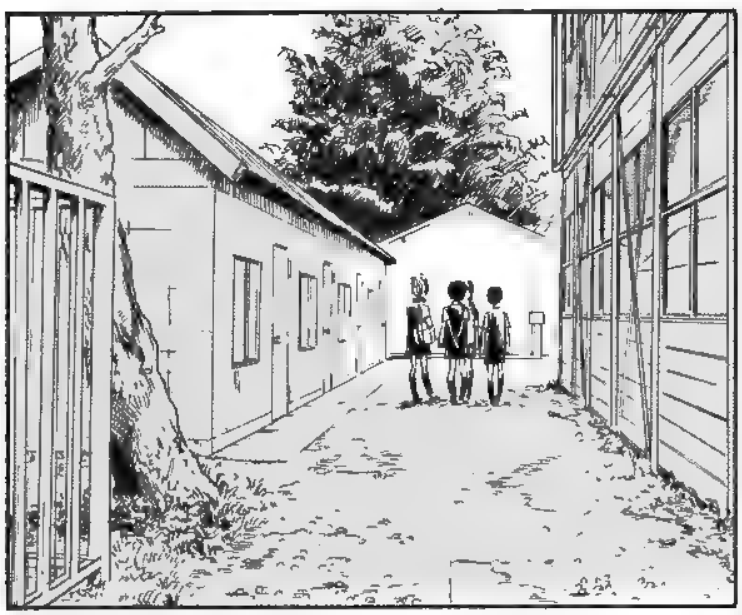
DING DONG
DING DONG

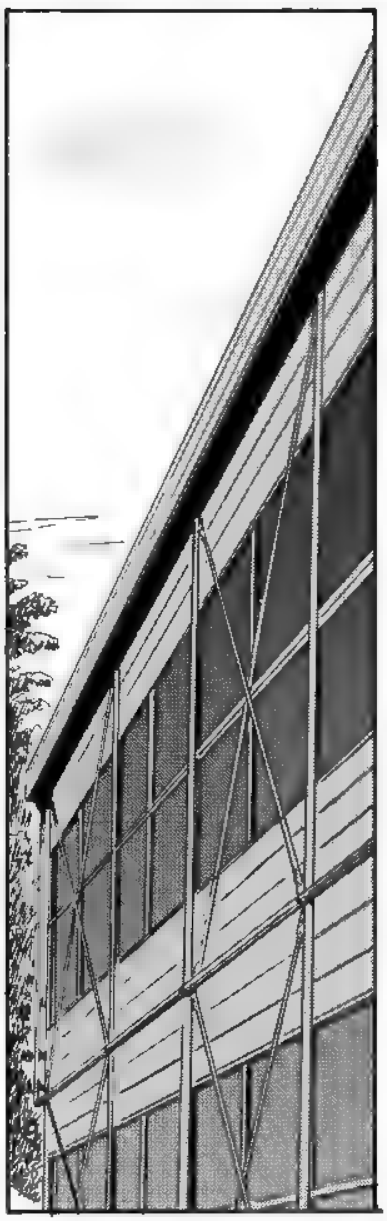

MARI.
URP...
HA HA HA!


ALL RIGHT!
DAY'S FINALLY OVER!
LET'S DROP BY A BOOK-STORE.

...FOR A MINUTE, OKAY?
COME WITH ME...

RATTLE

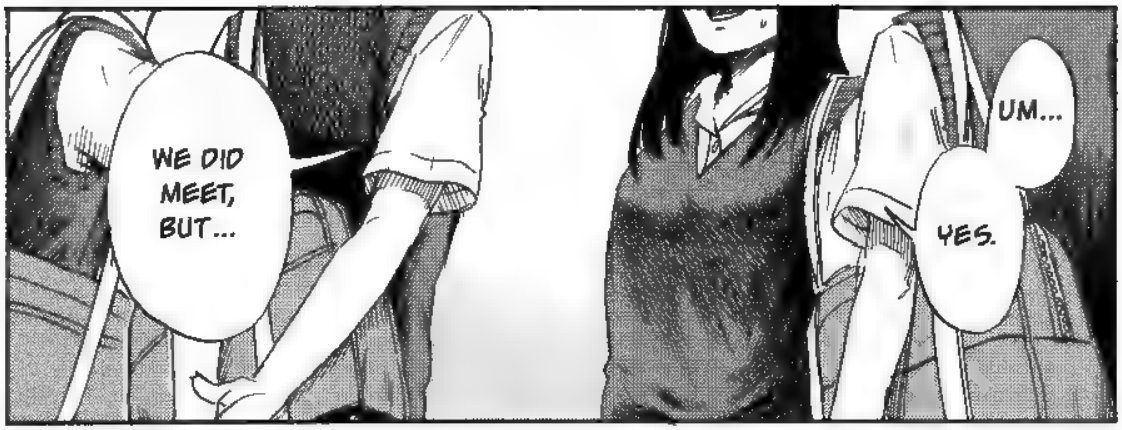




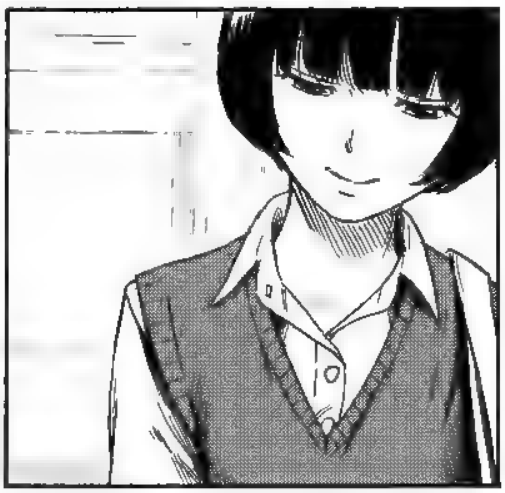
WHAT IS IT?

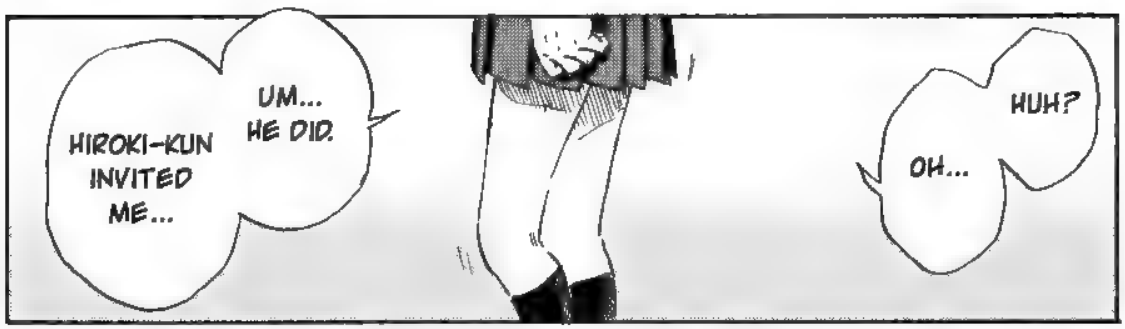
I WANT YOU TO ANSWER ME HONESTLY.
LOOK, MARI...

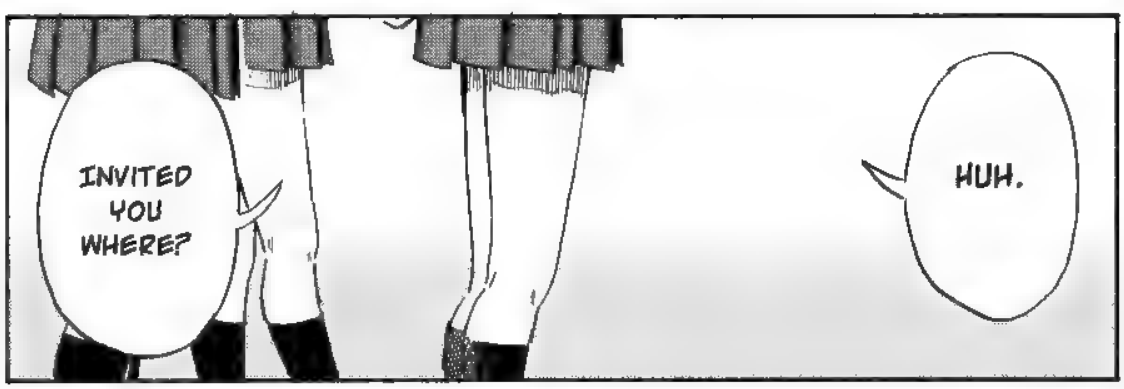
YOU MET WITH HIROKI YESTERDAY...
...DIDN'T YOU?


WE DID MEET, BUT...
UM...
YES.

WHO...
...INVITED WHOM?

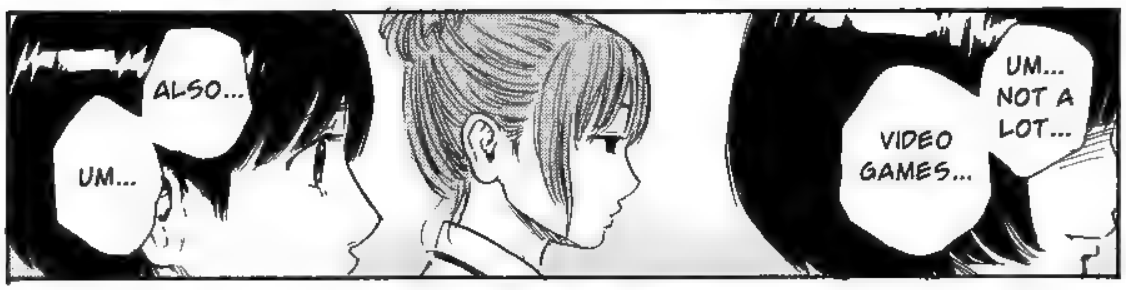



HIROKI-KUN INVITED ME...
UM... HE DID.
HUH?
OH...

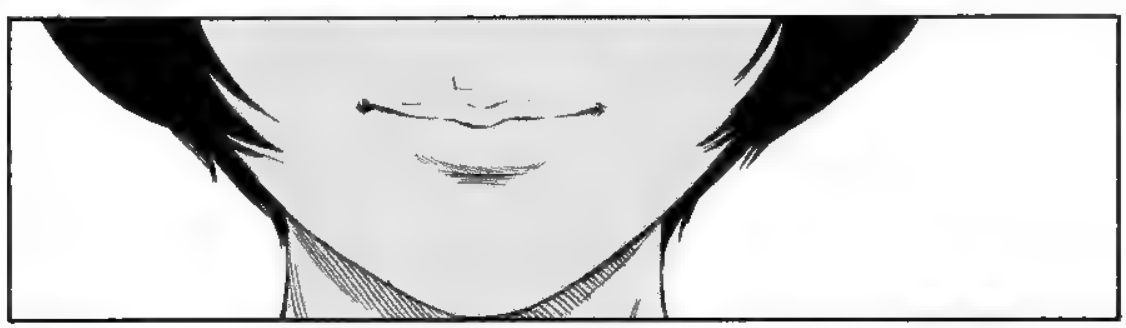

INVITED YOU WHERE?
HUH.

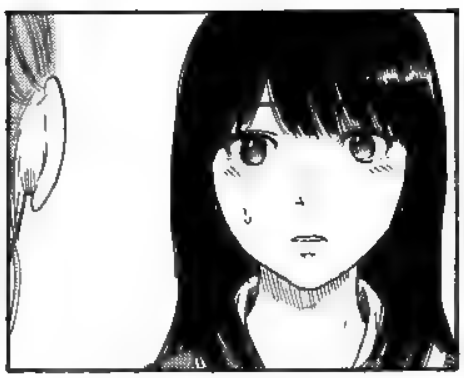
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT?

UH...
TO A CAFE IN FRONT OF THE STATION.


ALSO...
UM...
VIDEO GAMES...
UM... NOT A LOT...

HE ASKED ME IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED.
THAT WAS WHAT HE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT.
HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.





DIDN'T YOU GIVE ANY THOUGHT...
MARI...

...WHEN SHE FOUND OUT YOU MET WITH HIROKI-KUN ALONE?
...ABOUT HOW MOMOKA WOULD FEEL...

HOW SHE WOULD FEEL...

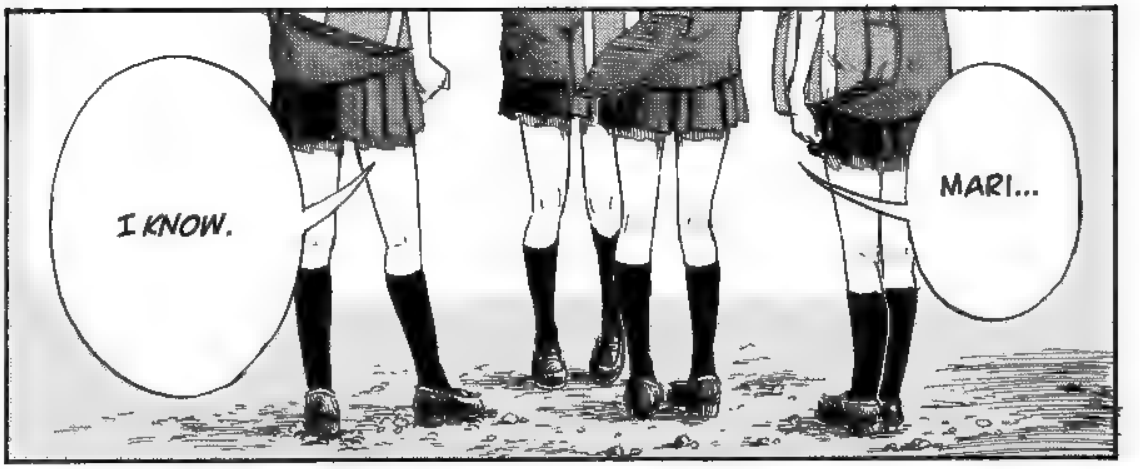
HUH?

ALL I DID WAS LISTEN TO HIM ABOUT IT... HONEST!

AH! WAIT A SECOND.
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT AT ALL!
I MEAN, HIROKI-KUN WAS WORRIED ABOUT MOMOKA-CHAN...

...WHY ARE YOU CALLING ME MOMOKA-CHAN?
AGAIN...

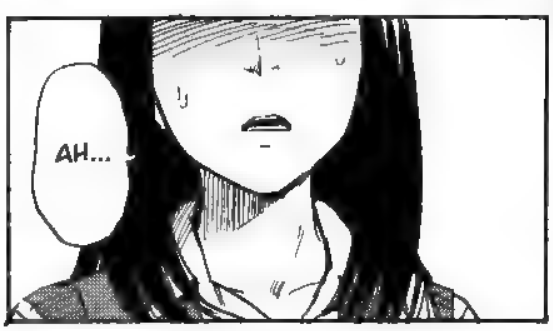
HUH?
AH...


I KNOW.
MARI...

MOMO-
KA...

HUH?

BEFORE HIROKI AND I STARTED DATING...
...HE ASKED MARI OUT.


AH...

MOMOKA!
MOMOKA!

UH...
I SEE...

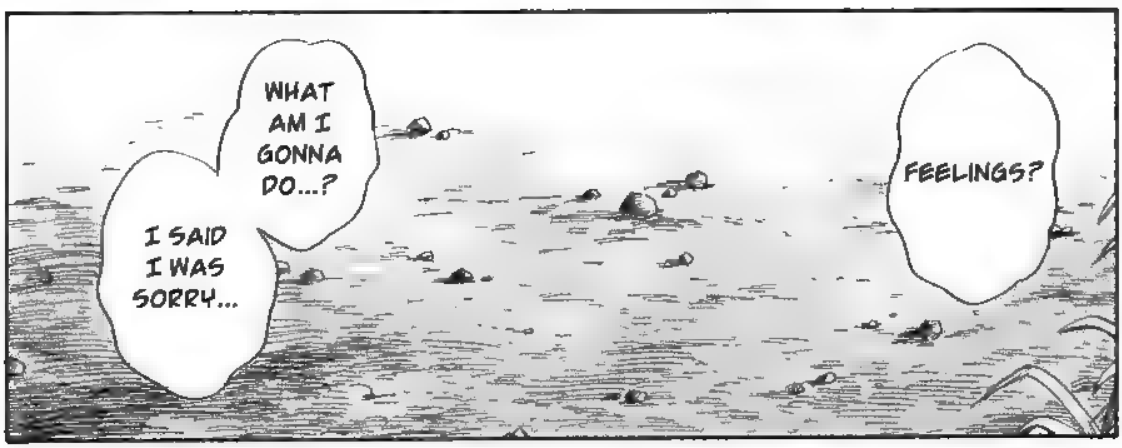
I'M SORRY THAT IT GOT TAKEN THE WRONG WAY...
SORRY...
AH!
UM...

I PROMISE THE TWO OF US WON'T MEET AGAIN! YEAH!

BUT... UM...
...BUT REALLY, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT! I SWEAR!

HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT MOMOKA'S FEELINGS?!

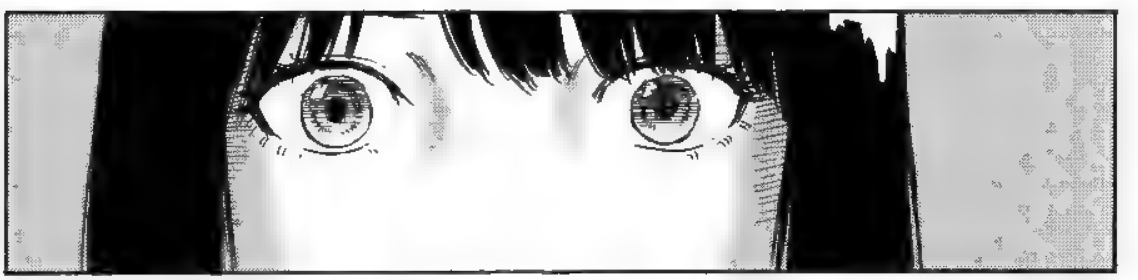
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE!!


WHAT AM I GONNA DO...?
I SAID I WAS SORRY...
FEELINGS?

FORGET IT!

MARI!

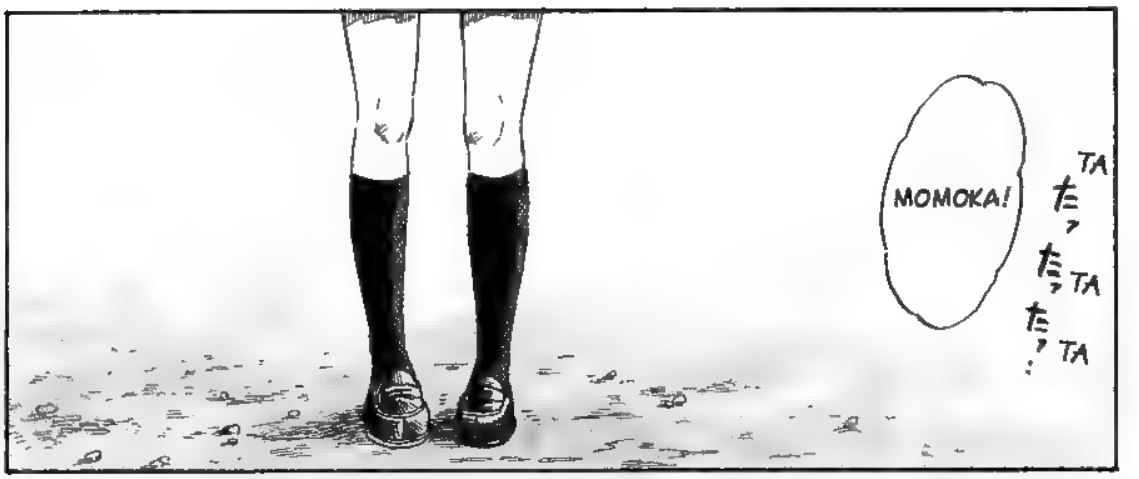
THAT'S ENOUGH.
THANK YOU, YOU TWO...



AH!
MOMOKA!
たっ
TA

CHIFF

MOMOKA, WAIT!
TA
TA
TA
MOMOKA!
MARI...
I'VE LOST RESPECT FOR YOU.


MOMOKA!
たったったっ
TA
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CAW
アー
CAW
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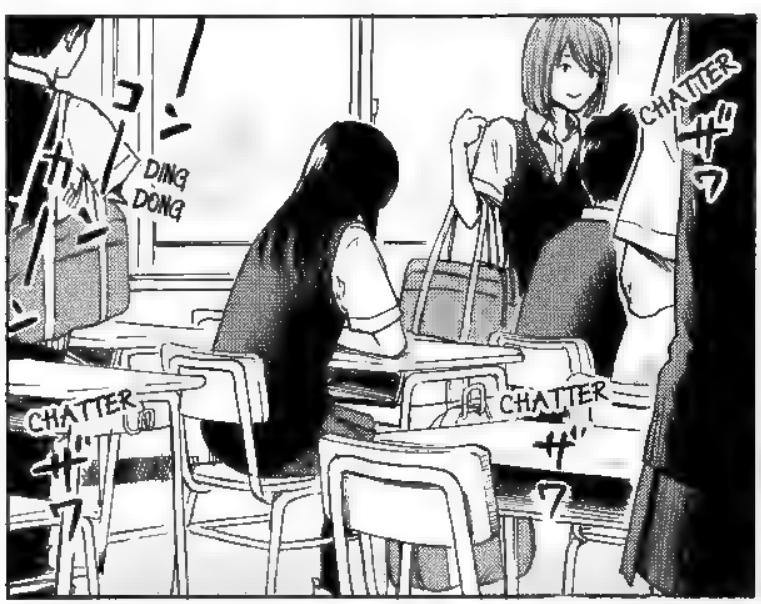
CHAPTER 22: STAGNATING ATMOSPHERE

NOTEBOOK: NO GOOD, NO GOOD

I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

YES. SORRY.

AGAIN?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU LATELY? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

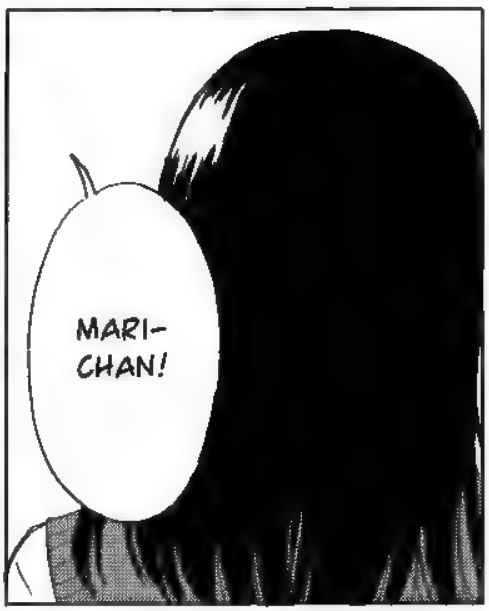

DING DONG
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER

DING DONG
DING DONG

WHY DON'T WE GO TO SHINJUKU?
AH! GREAT IDEA!
WHAT DO YOU WANNA TODAY?

MAYBE I'LL BUY THAT SKIRT I'VE WANTED...
YAY!
THERE'S A SALE GOING ON NOW.

I NOTICE YOU'VE BEEN ALONE A LOT LATELY.
HEY...

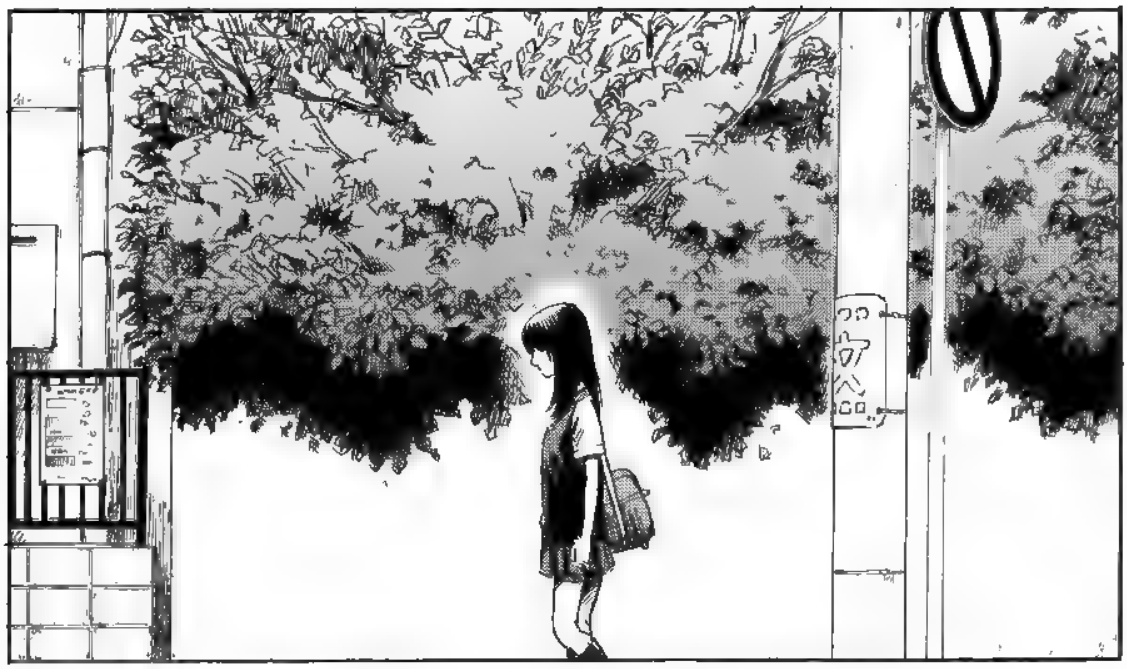

MARI-CHAN!

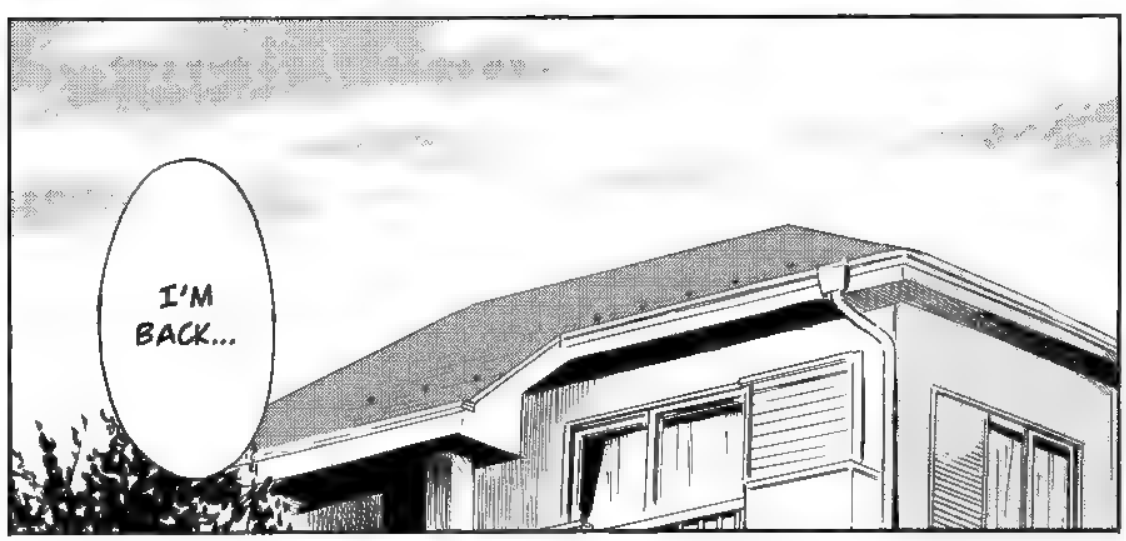
YOU DON'T GO OUT WITH MOMOKA AND THE REST ANYMORE?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHY DON'T WE...

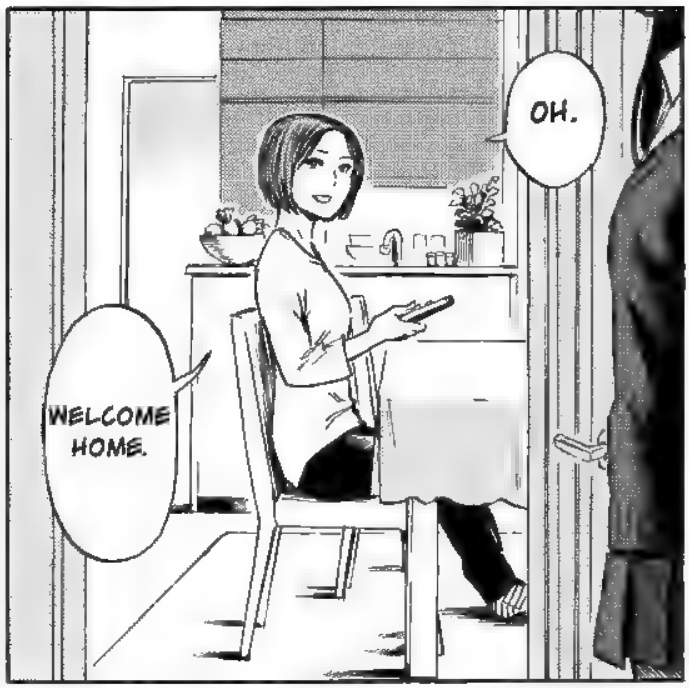
HA HA HA!

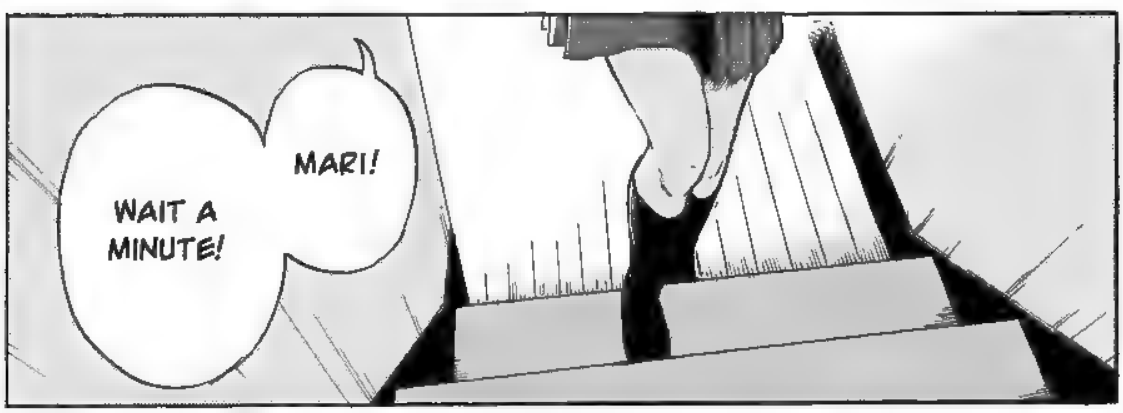
AH!
HUH?

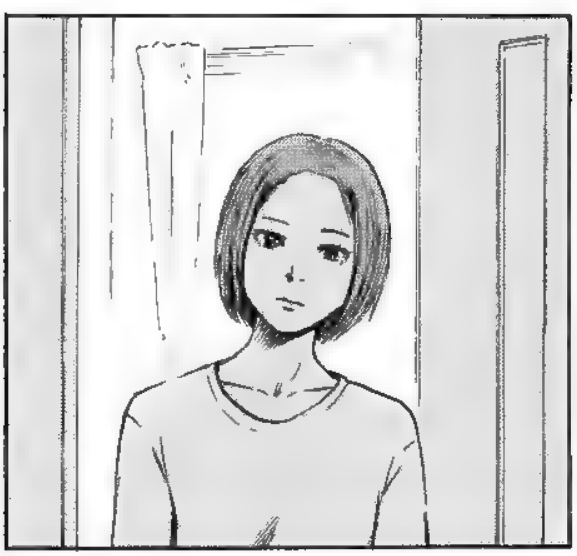
UH... THANKS.
RATTLE
ガタ
BUT I'M FINE.
SEE YOU.



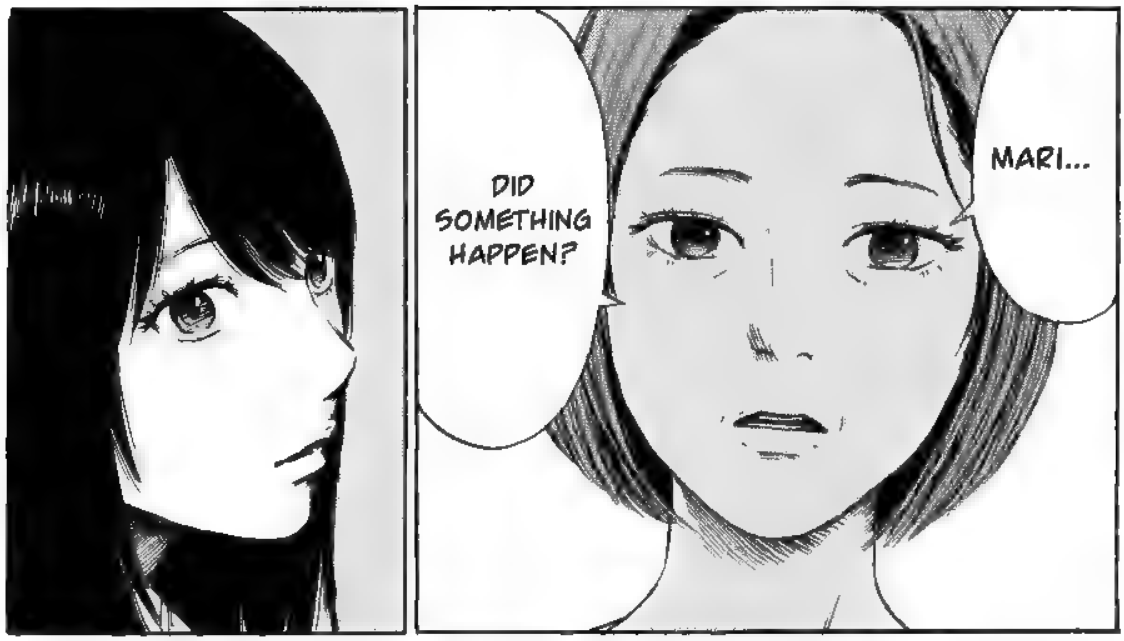

I'M BACK...


OH.
WELCOME HOME.

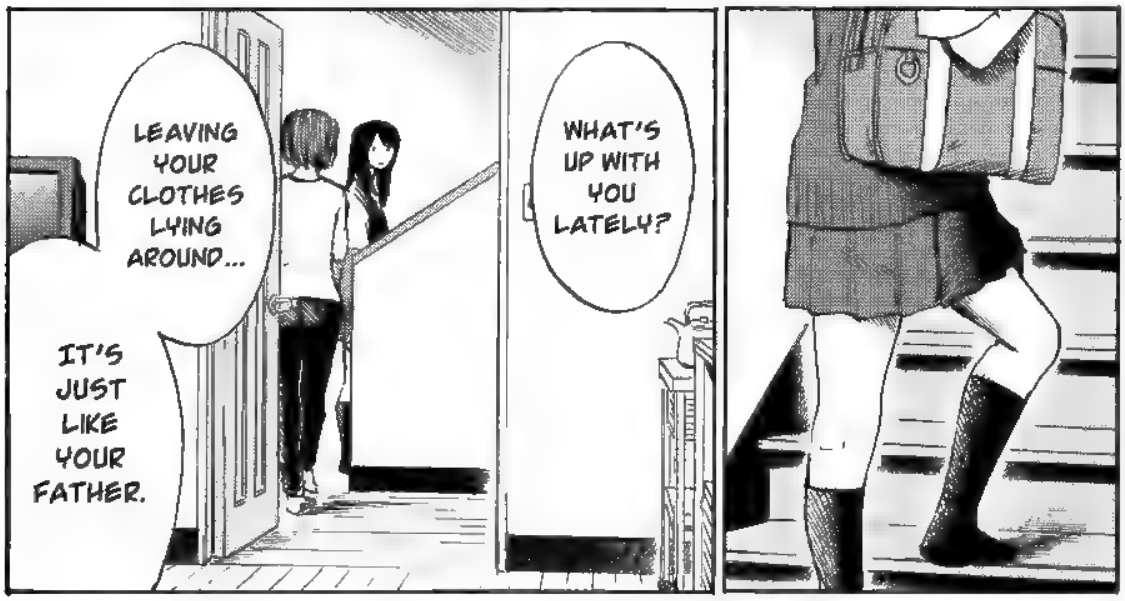

MARI!
WAIT A MINUTE!

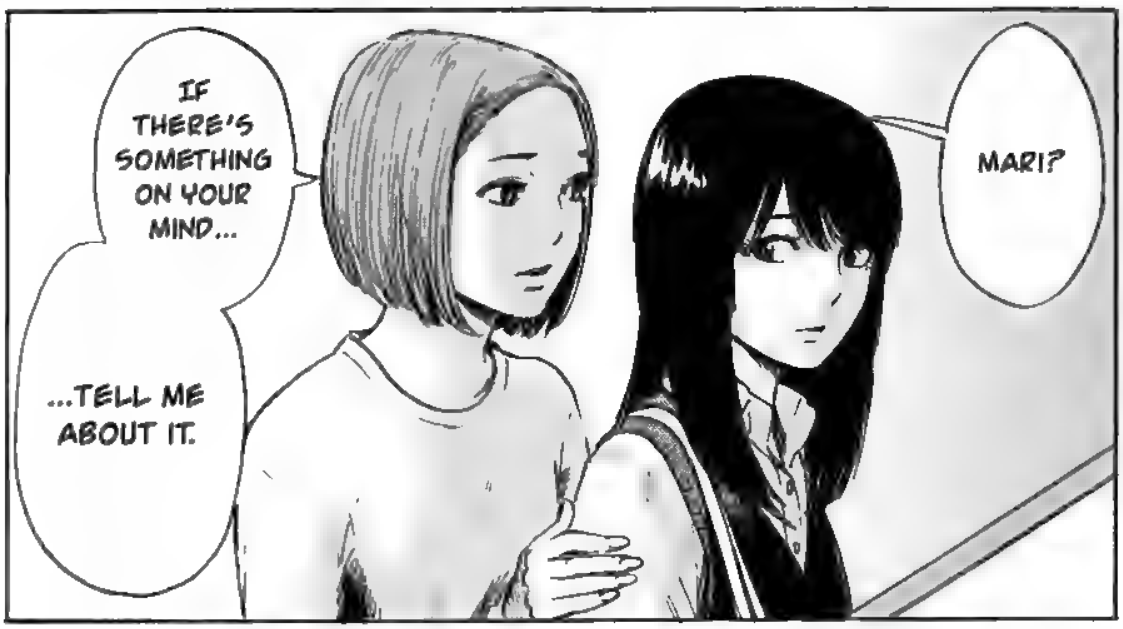


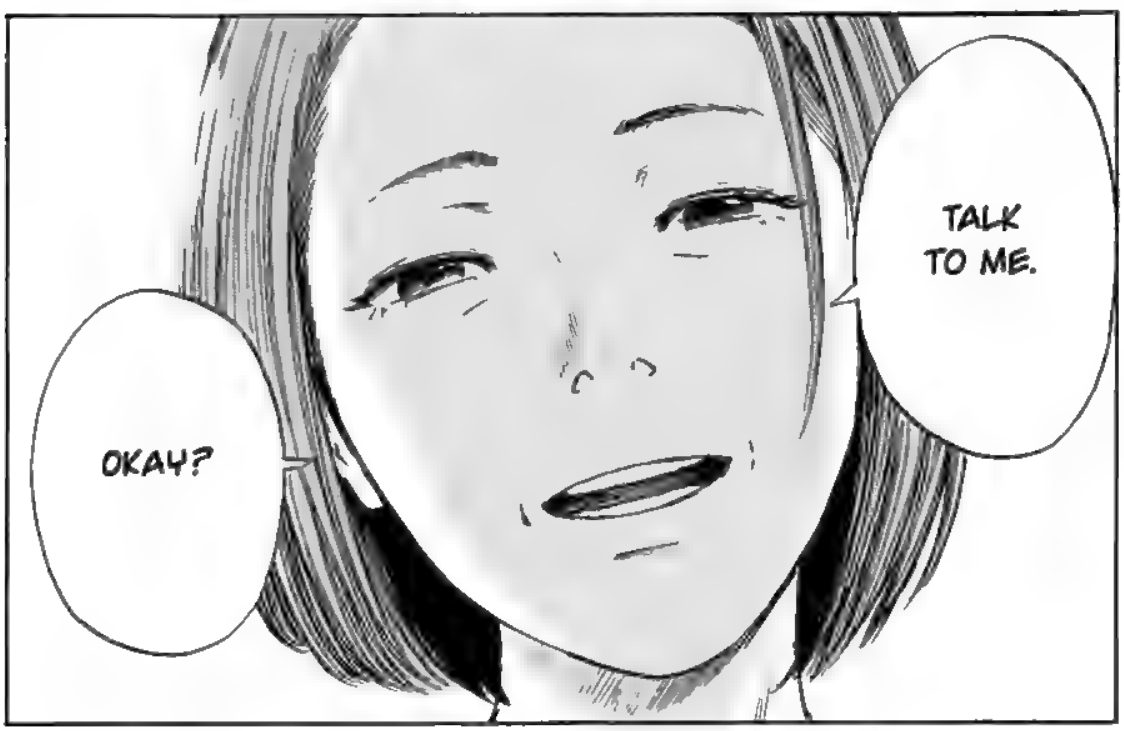
HUH?


DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
MARI...

LOOK AT THE WAY YOU LEFT THEM.
YOUR SHOES...


LEAVING YOUR CLOTHES LYING AROUND...
IT'S JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU LATELY?

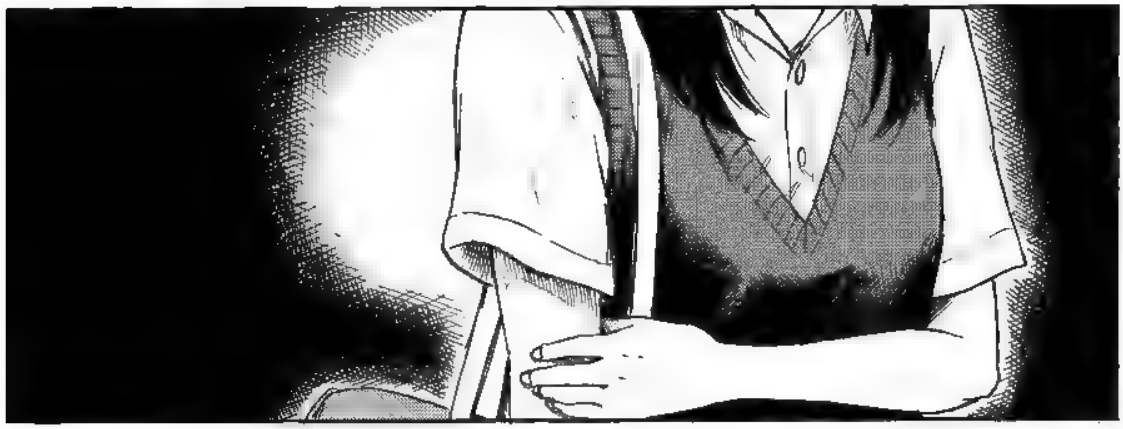

IF THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND...
...TELL ME ABOUT IT.
MARI?

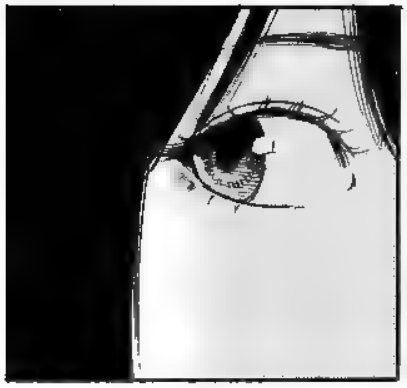

TALK TO ME.
OKAY?

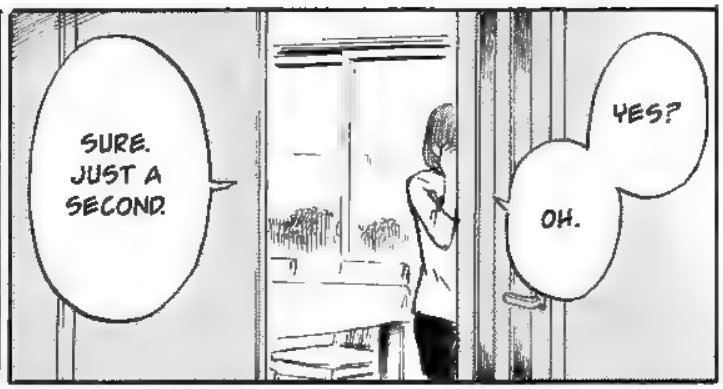
ポピ
ポピ
DING DONG
DING DONG

ドタ
TA
TA
ドタ
TA
TA
ドタ
TA

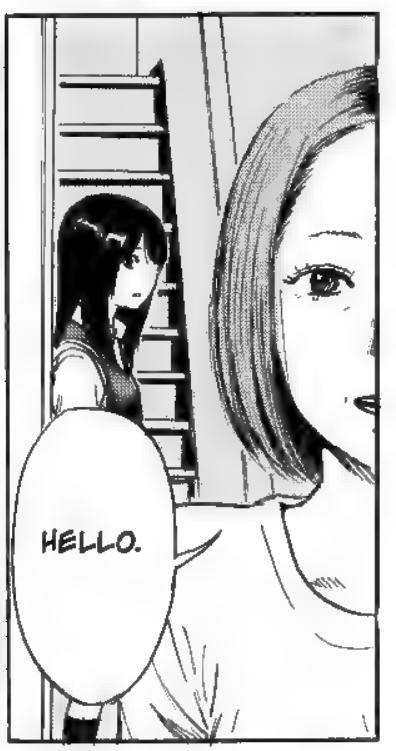
AH...
COMING!






YES?
OH.
SURE. JUST A SECOND.

UH... HELLO. NICE TO MEET YOU!
I'M HIROKI SAKAMOTO, A FRIEND OF MARI-CHAN'S.


HELLO.

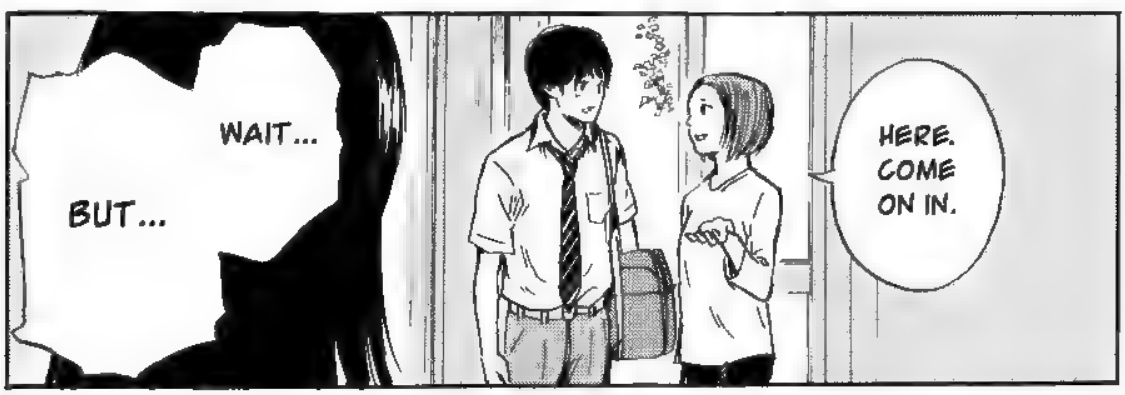
SORRY FOR SUDDENLY COMING OVER!
AH... MARI-CHAN!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE...

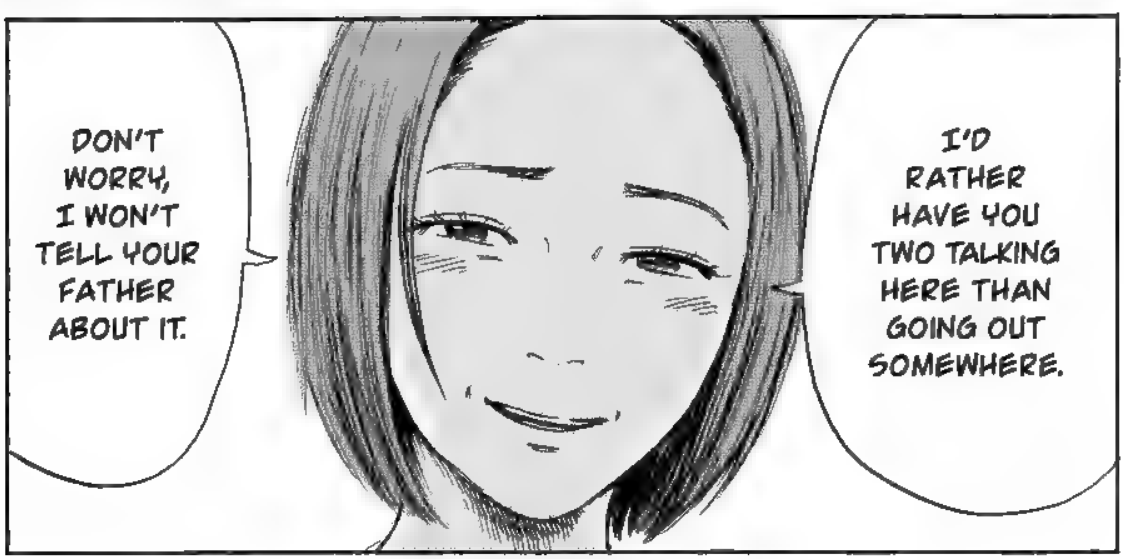
PLEASE, CAN WE JUST TALK FOR A FEW MINUTES?
YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED ANY OF MY CALLS OR TEXTS, SO I'VE BEEN WORRIED...

...
UH...
NOW ISN'T REALLY A...

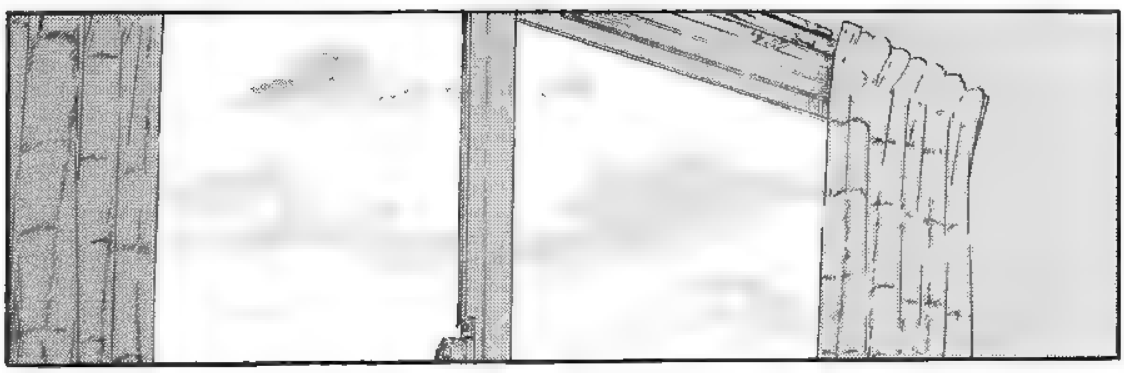
HUH?

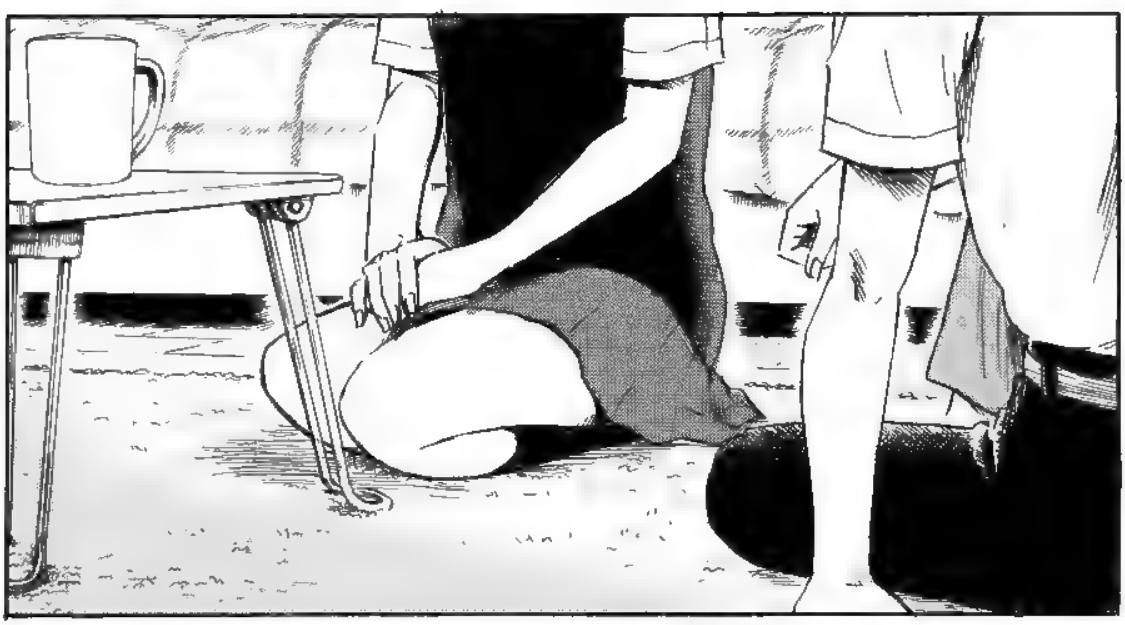
MARI?
TALK TO HIM.

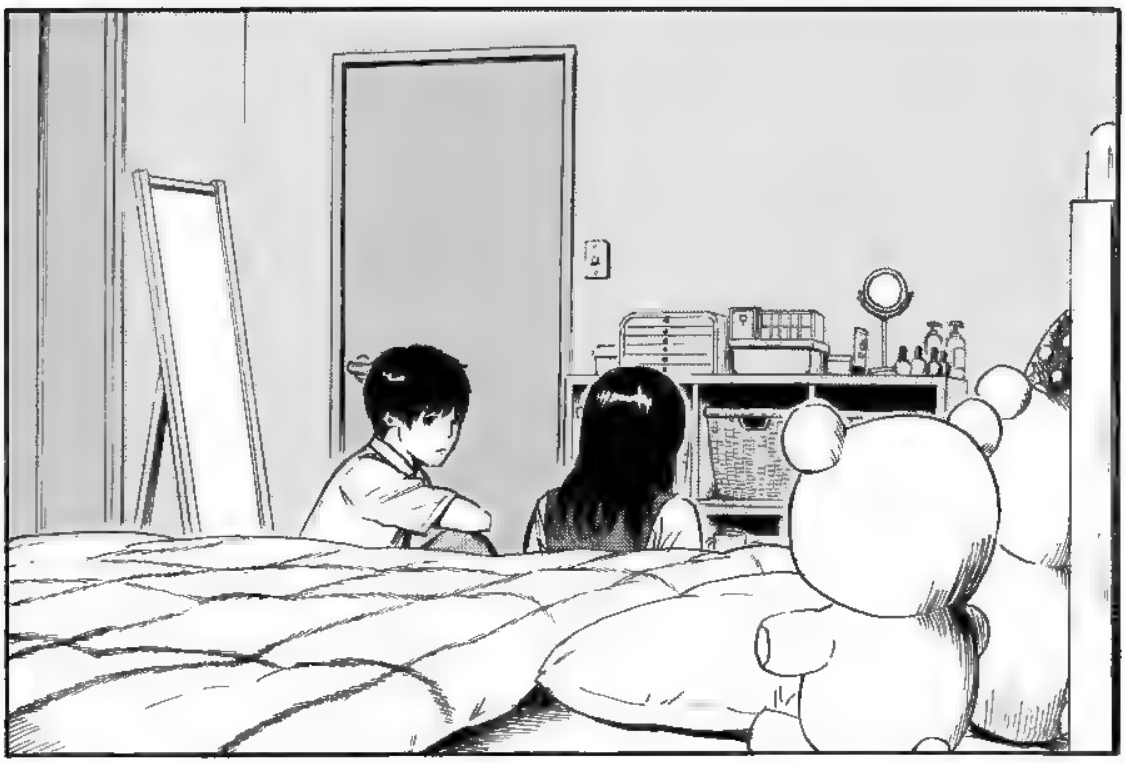

WAIT...
BUT...
HERE. COME ON IN.

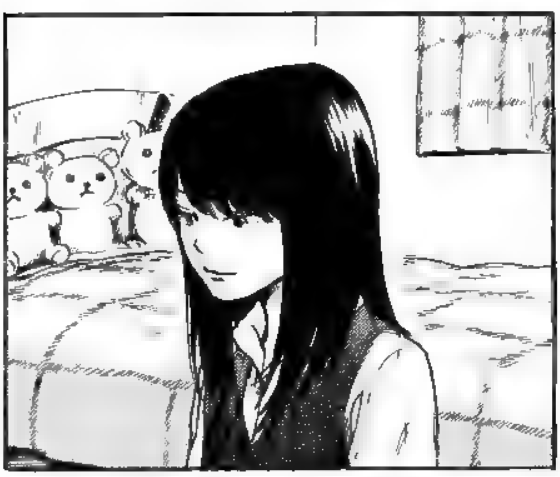

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T TELL YOUR FATHER ABOUT IT.
I'D RATHER HAVE YOU TWO TALKING HERE THAN GOING OUT SOMEWHERE.

PLEASE, COME IN.
UH... THANK YOU, MA'AM.

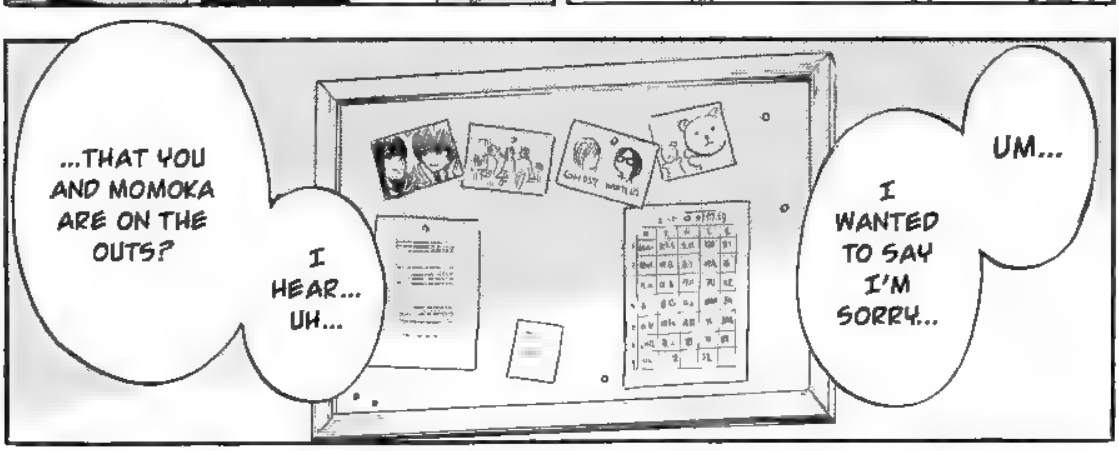




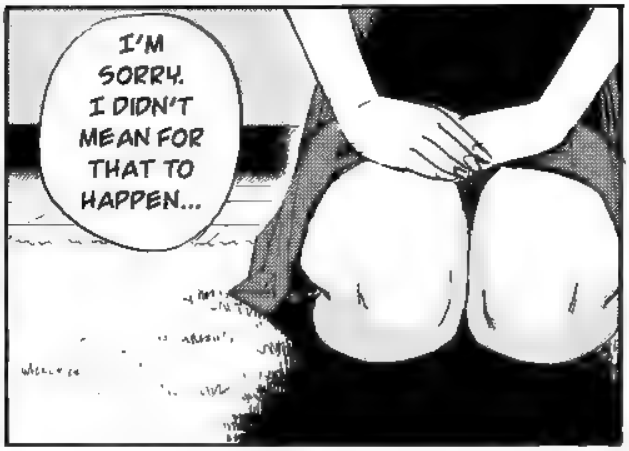


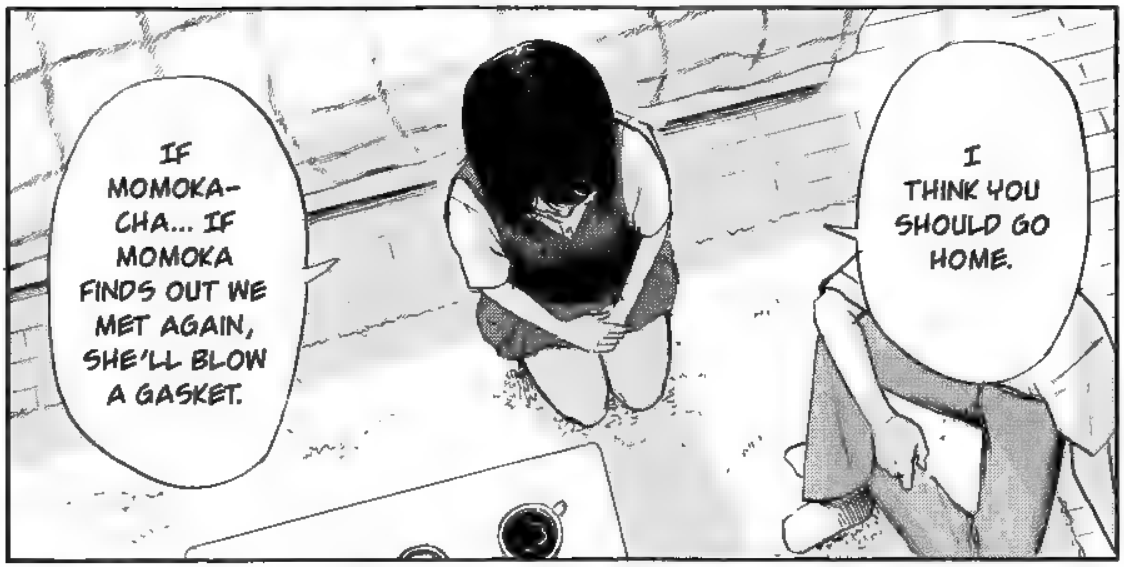


UH...
MARI-CHAN...


...THAT YOU AND MOMOKA ARE ON THE OUTS?
I HEAR... UH...
UM...
I WANTED TO SAY I'M SORRY...

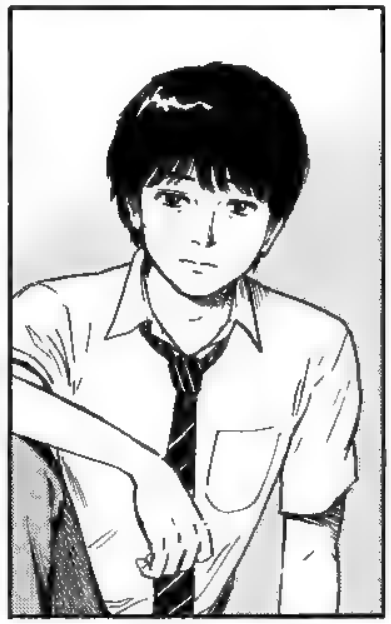
UM...


I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THAT TO HAPPEN...

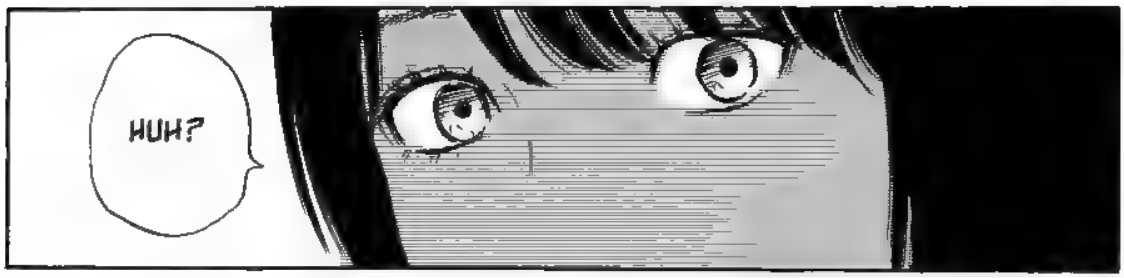

IF MOMOKA-CHA... IF MOMOKA FINDS OUT WE MET AGAIN, SHE'LL BLOW A GASKET.
I THINK YOU SHOULD GO HOME.

MARI-CHAN...

OKAY?
YOU'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE.



I BROKE UP WITH MOMOKA.


HUH?

I...
I DIDN'T WANT TO LIE ANYMORE...

I...
I JUST DIDN'T...

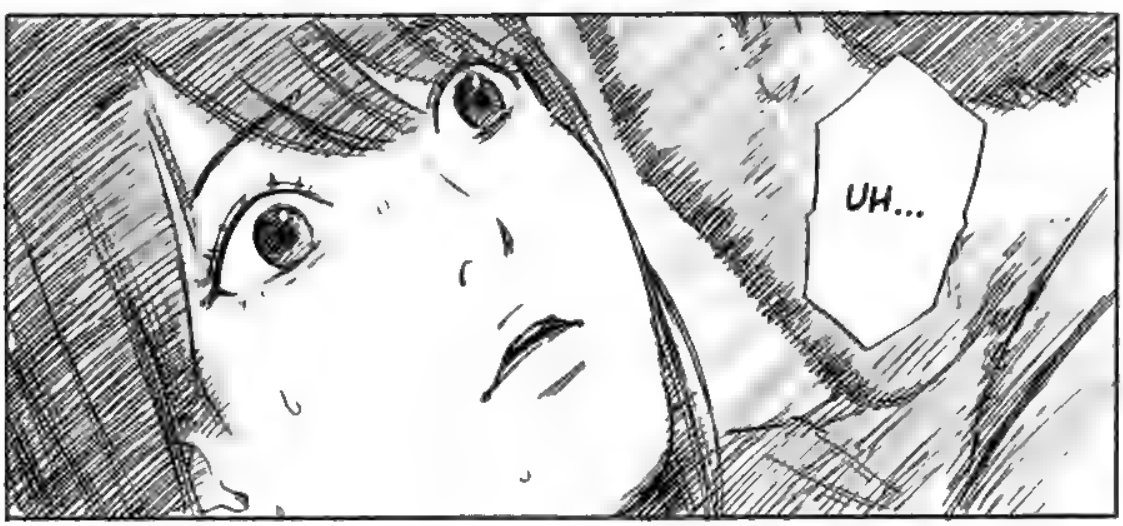
...ABOUT MY FEELINGS.

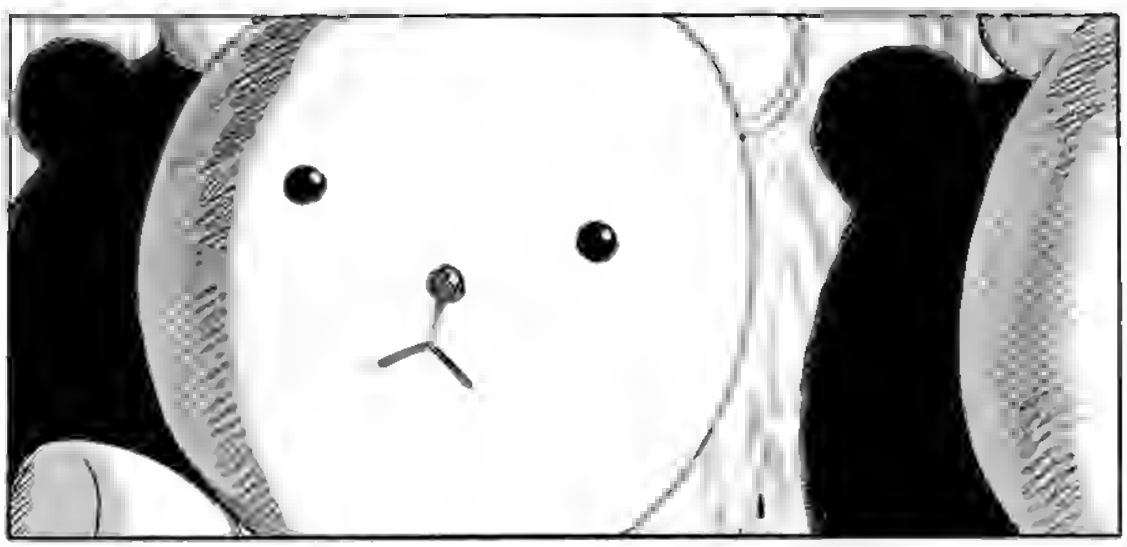
TWITCH
びくっ

MARI-
CHAN...

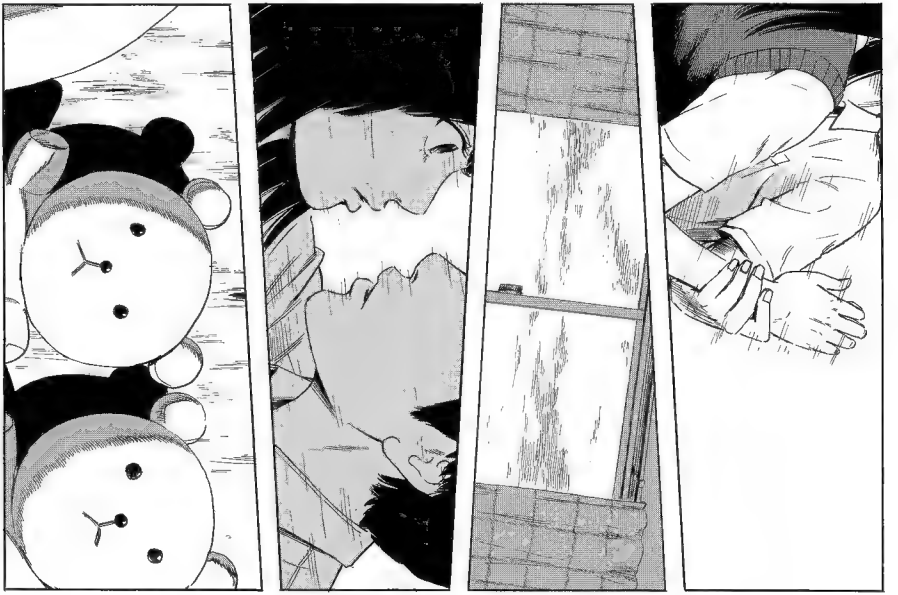
ワ!!
SHUDDER

DON'T...
SWISH


UH...



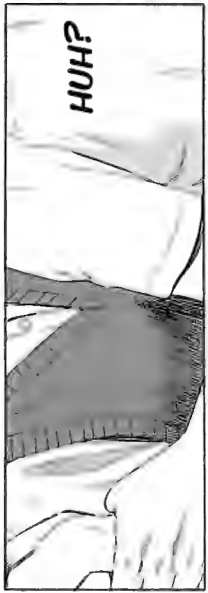
MOMOKA'S BOYFRIEND, HIROKI, SUDDENLY PAYS A VISIT. HE TELLS HER, "I BROKE UP WITH MOMOKA." AND THEN...

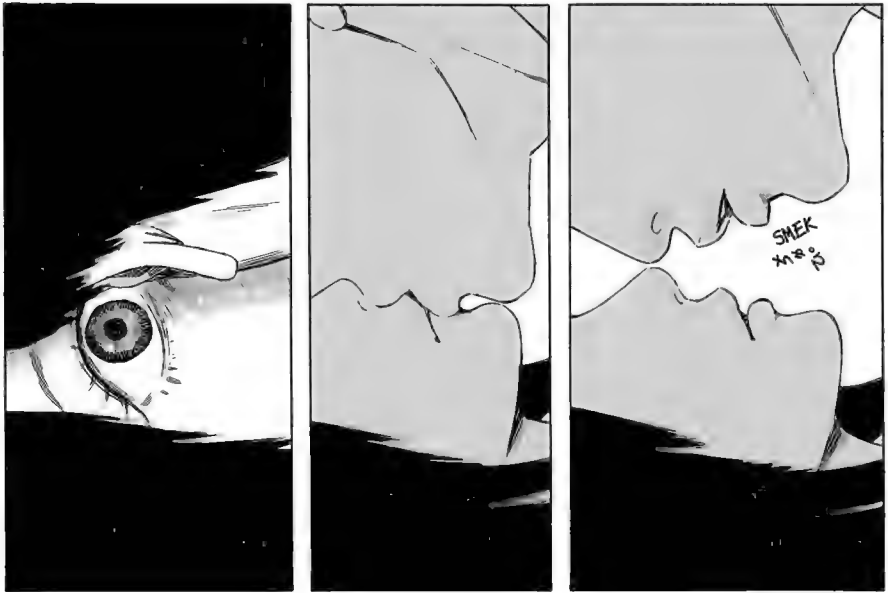


CHAPTER 23: COMING OUT

MY FIRST KISS WAS LIKE THIS...

SUMMARY: I'M A COLLEGE STUDENT, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A SINGLE FRIEND IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. THE ONLY PLEASURE IN MY LIFE WAS REGULARLY FOLLOWING HOME A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL, WHOSE NAME I DON'T EVEN KNOW, FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE. ONE NIGHT, I WAS FOLLOWING HER AS USUAL, BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS... I WOKE UP IN HER BED, WITH MY MIND IN HER BODY. HER NAME IS MARY, AND THAT DAY I WENT TO HER SCHOOL PRETENDING TO BE HER AFTER SCHOOL. I WENT TO MY APARTMENT ONLY TO FIND THAT MARY-SAN'S MIND WASN'T IN MY BODY...

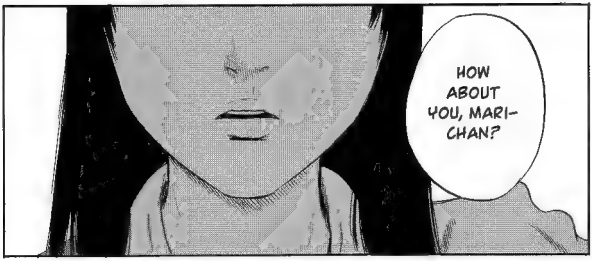



SMEK

HUH?
...

SQUEEZE
ぎゅ…

THAT...
...FELT GREAT TO ME.


HOW ABOUT YOU, MARI-CHAN?

MM?

ゴ
グ
WOK

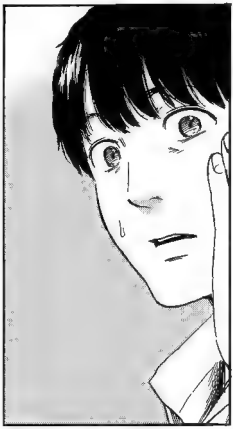
THAT HURT.
OW...

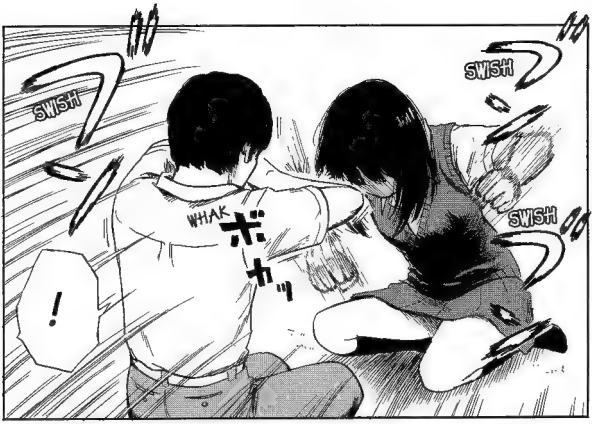
じーん…
STING
THROB ズキ
ズキ THROB

HUH?

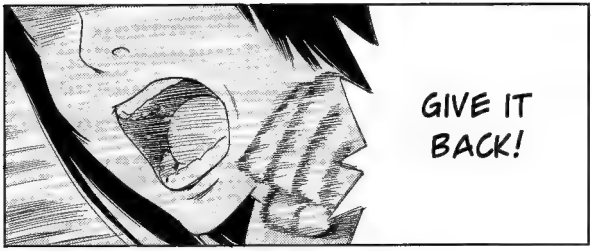
AH...
AH...

GOD...
DAMN ...
IT...



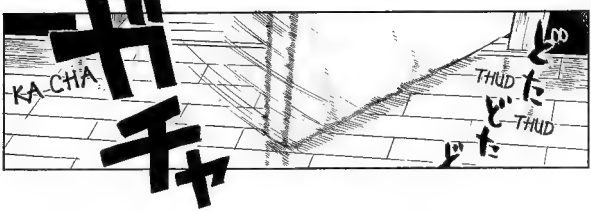

SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
WHAK
ボカッ
!

HUH?
OW...
WAIT A SEC...


GIVE IT BACK!

GIVE IT BACK!

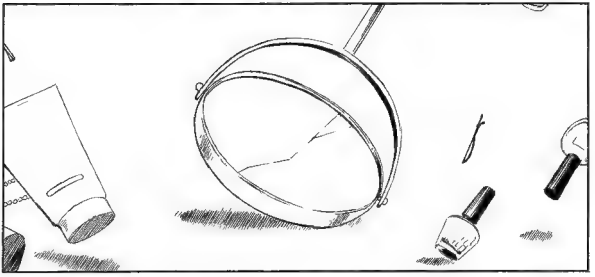
GIVE IT BACK!



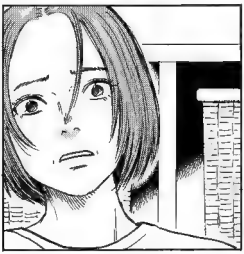
GIVE IT BACK!
MARI?
MARI! STOP IT!
MARI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
GIVE IT BACK!
MARI!

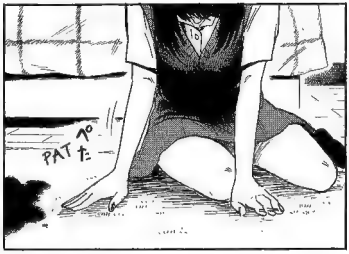
AIEEE!
SHOVE
OUTTA MY WAY!

ガ
CRA
SH
シャ



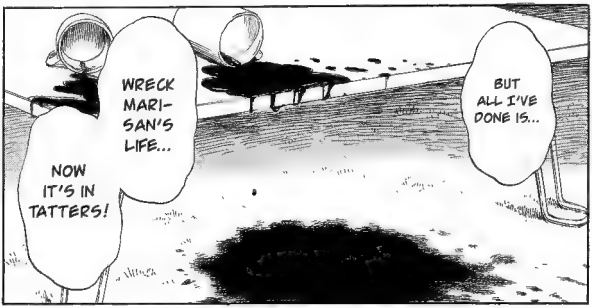
OUCH...



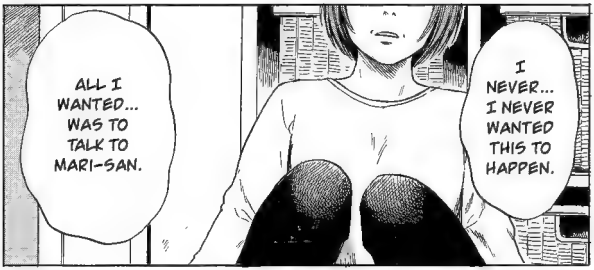

PAT

I CAN'T DO THIS...
I CAN'T TAKE ANY-MORE ...

AND I WANT TO PROTECT HER SO BADLY...
I CARE ABOUT HER SO MUCH...


WRECK MARI-SAN'S LIFE...
NOW IT'S IN TATTERS!
BUT ALL I'VE DONE IS...

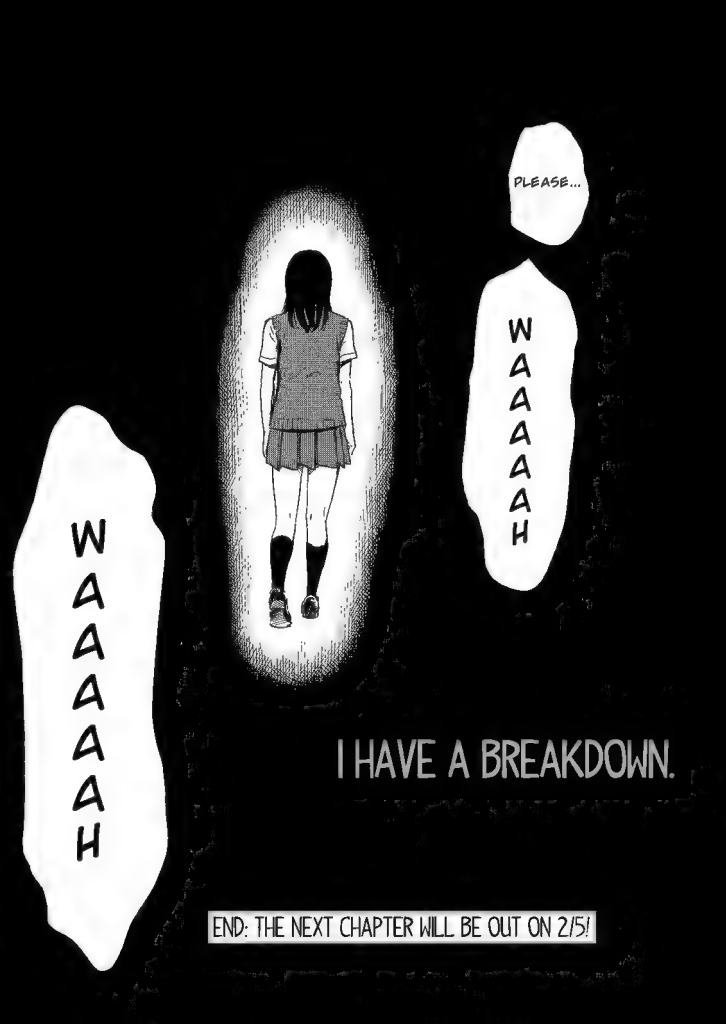
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY...
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY...
I'M NOT REALLY MARI-SAN.
I'M ISAO KOMORI...


ALL I WANTED... WAS TO TALK TO MARI-SAN.
I NEVER... I NEVER WANTED THIS TO HAPPEN.

I WANTED TO MARRY HER.
I WANTED TO HAVE SEX WITH HER.
I WANTED HER TO KISS ME.
I WANTED TO BE FRIENDS WITH HER. I WANTED HER TO TELL ME SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH ME.

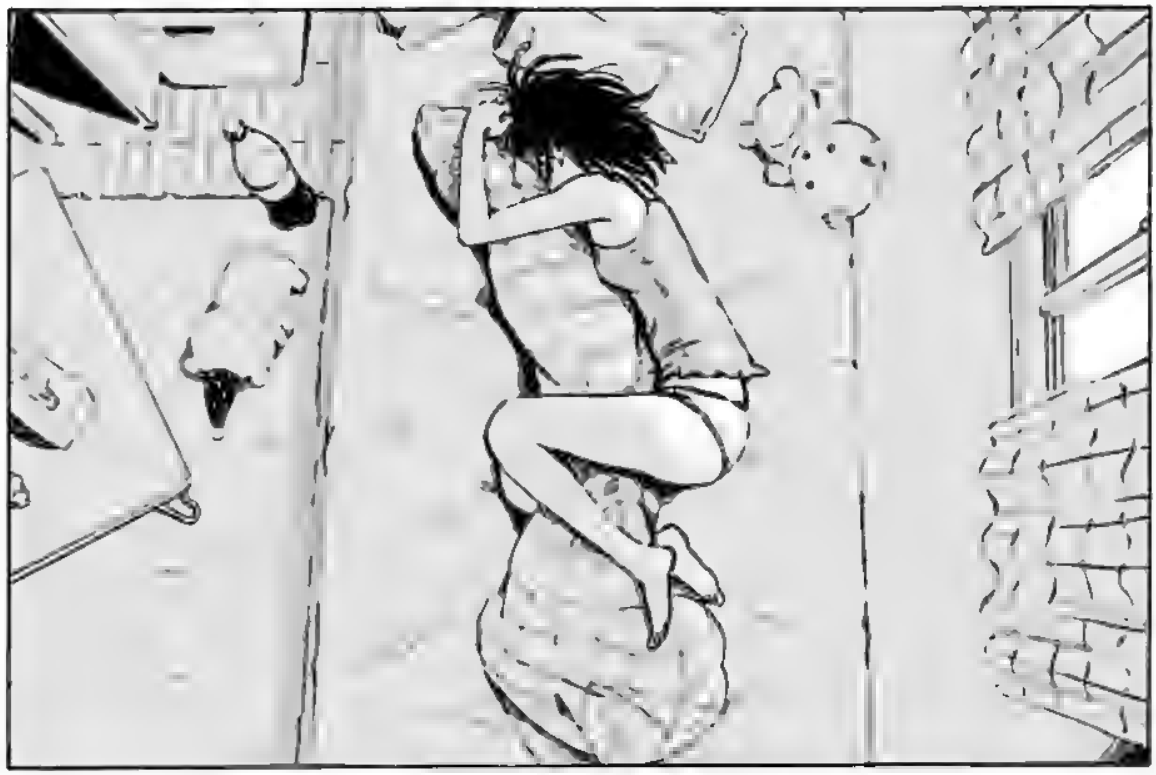
...FROM THE ABYSS I WAS IN.
I WANTED HER TO RESCUE ME...

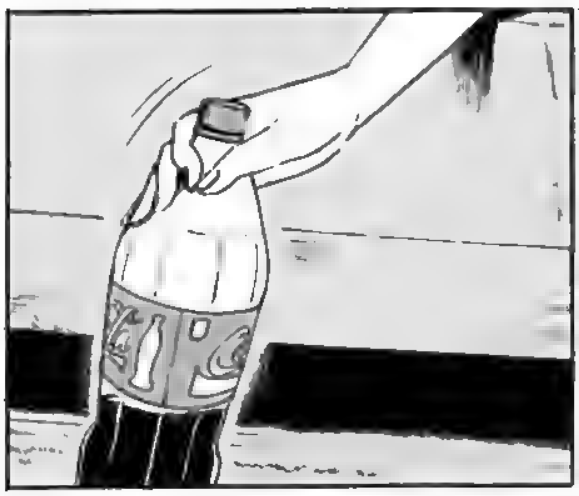
I SHOULD'VE TALKED TO HER...
...BUT I WAS AFRAID.
I WAS SCARED OF BEING ACKNOWL-EDGED BY MARI-SAN.
I RAN AWAY...
I RAN AWAY FROM EVERY-THING...
I WAS JUST RUNNING AWAY!
I'M SORRY... I'M SORRY!
PLEASE LET ME GO HOME!
I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON!

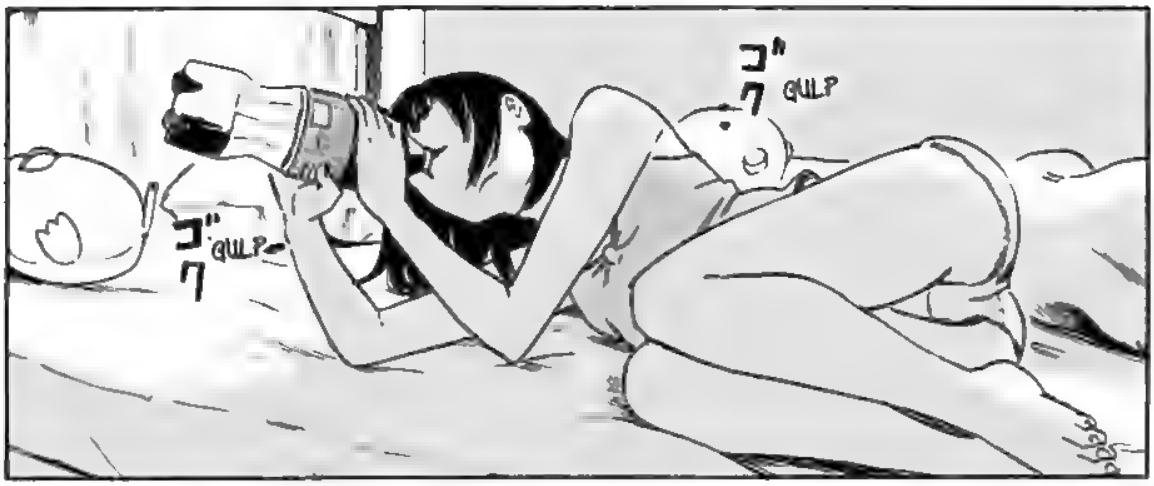

PLEASE...
WAAAAAAH
WAAAAAAH
I HAVE A BREAKDOWN.
END: THE NEXT CHAPTER WILL BE OUT ON 2/5!

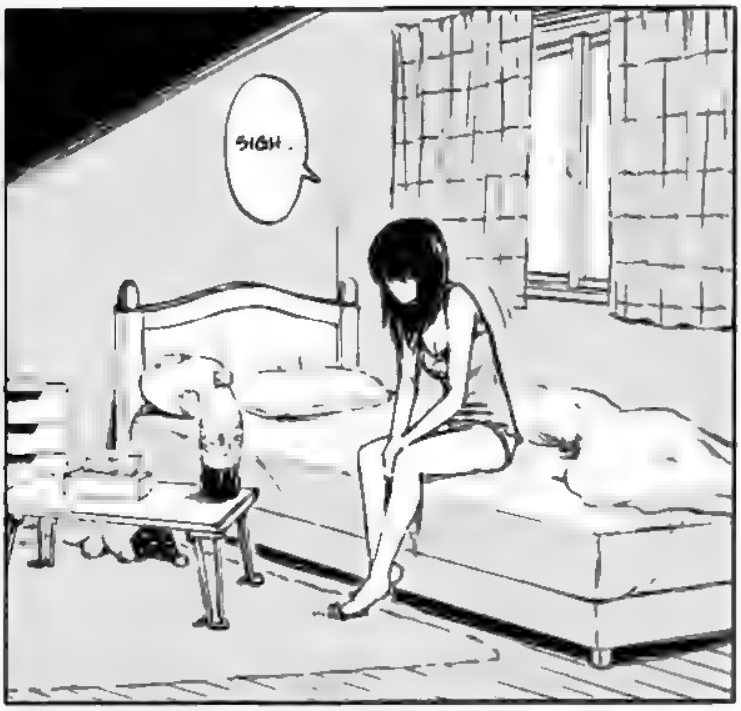
CHAPTER 24: I'M ISAO KOMORI.

MIRP
MIRP

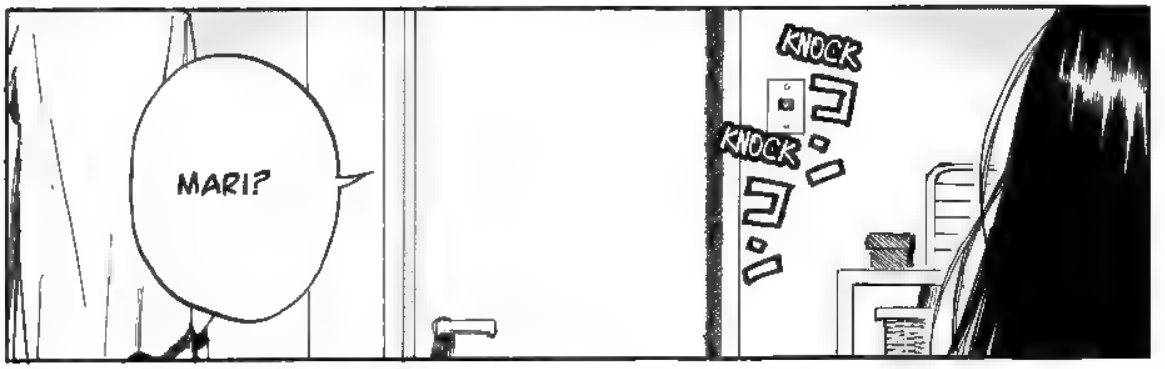


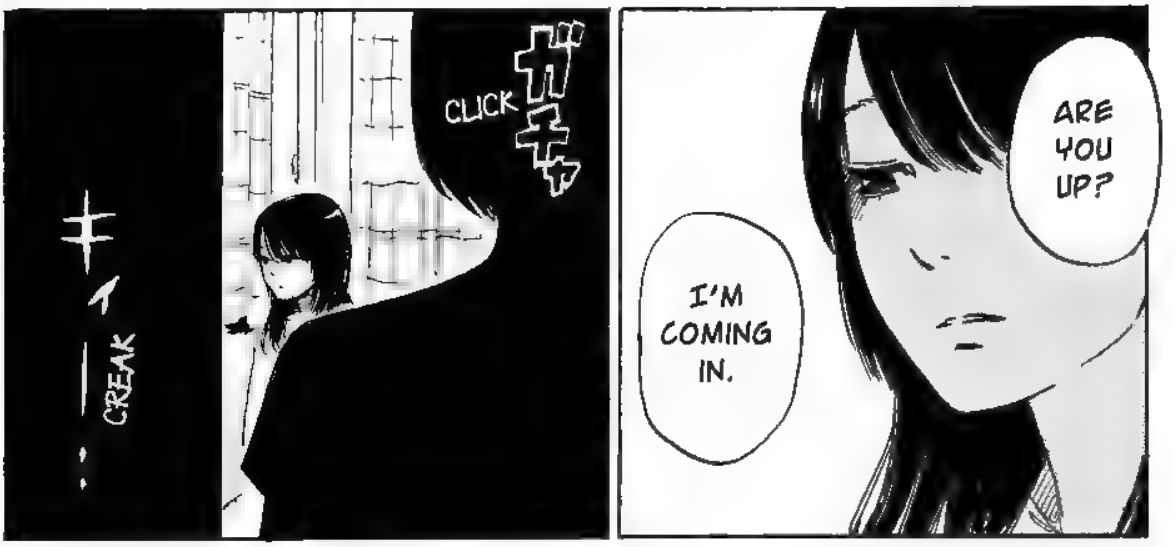


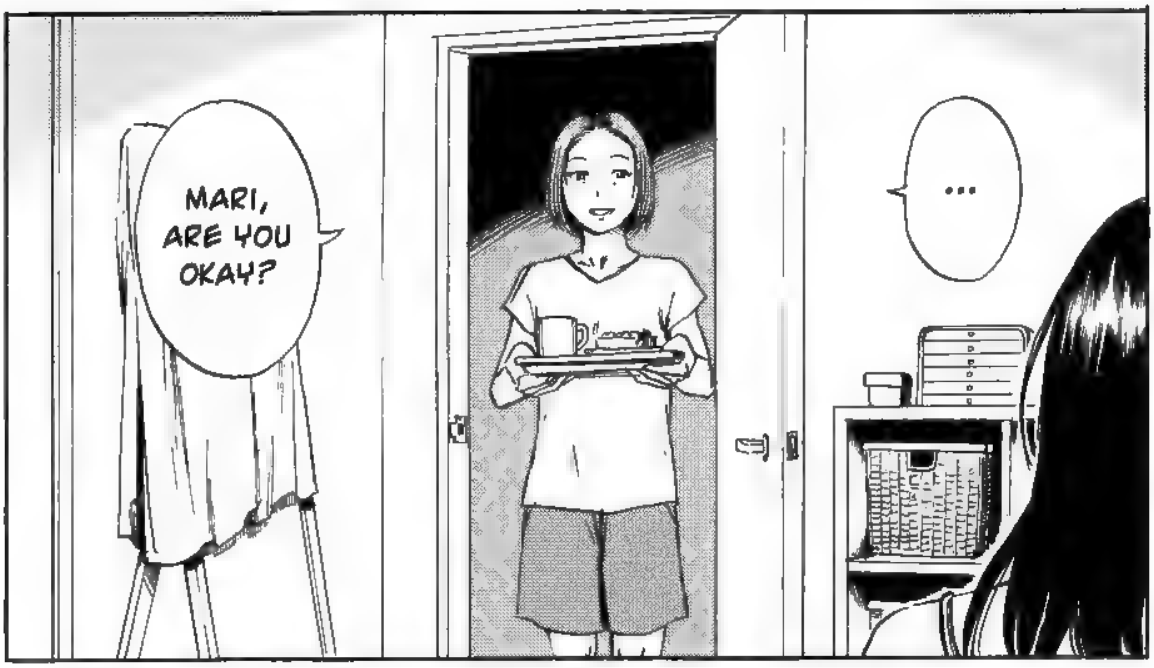

ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP


SIGH.

URP...


KNOCK
KNOCK
MARI?


ARE YOU UP?
I'M COMING IN.
CLICK
CREAK


MARI, ARE YOU OKAY?
...

IT'S EVENING ALREADY. 5:00 PM.

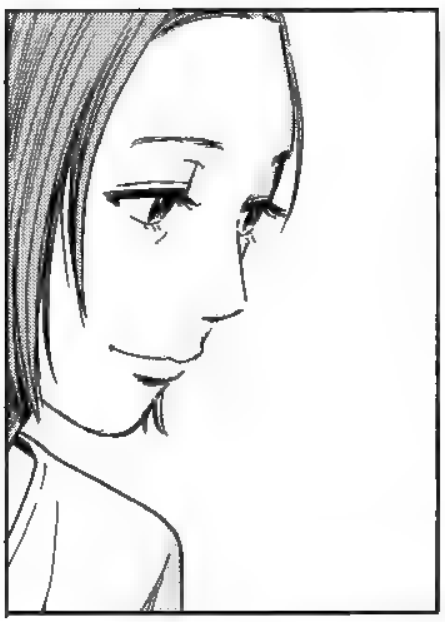
I'M ISAO KOMORI.
I'M NOT MARI...

IT'S ALL RIGHT...
CLACK

OKAY?

...AND YOU'LL BE ALL BETTER SOON.
EAT THIS...
...TAKE THIS MEDICINE...

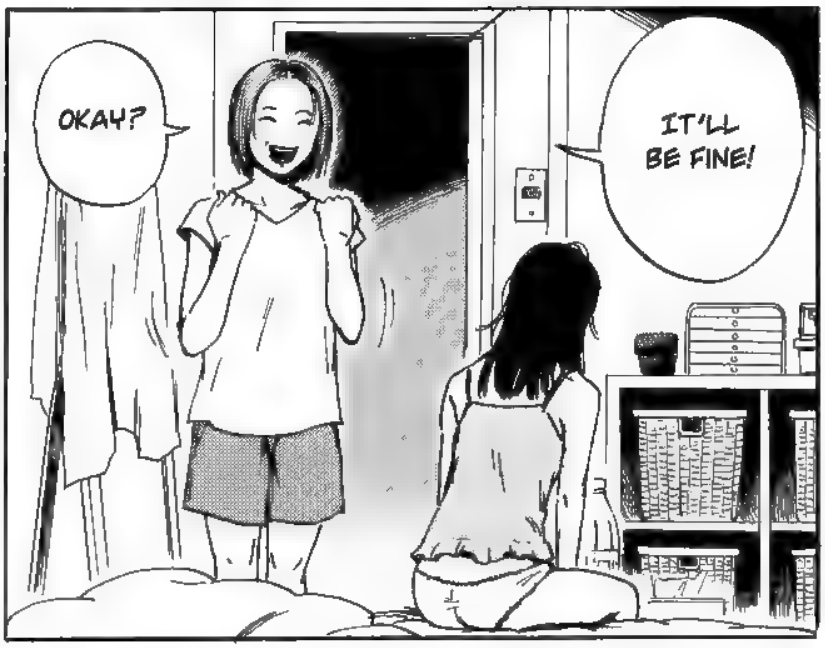
...SO DON'T WORRY.
I TOLD DAD THAT YOU'RE IN BED WITH A BAD COLD...



I'M NOT MARI-SAN.

I WANT YOU TO TRY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK.
MARI IS MARI.
THAT'S NOT SO.

JUST MAKE SURE YOU TAKE YOUR MEDICINE.


OKAY?
IT'LL BE FINE!

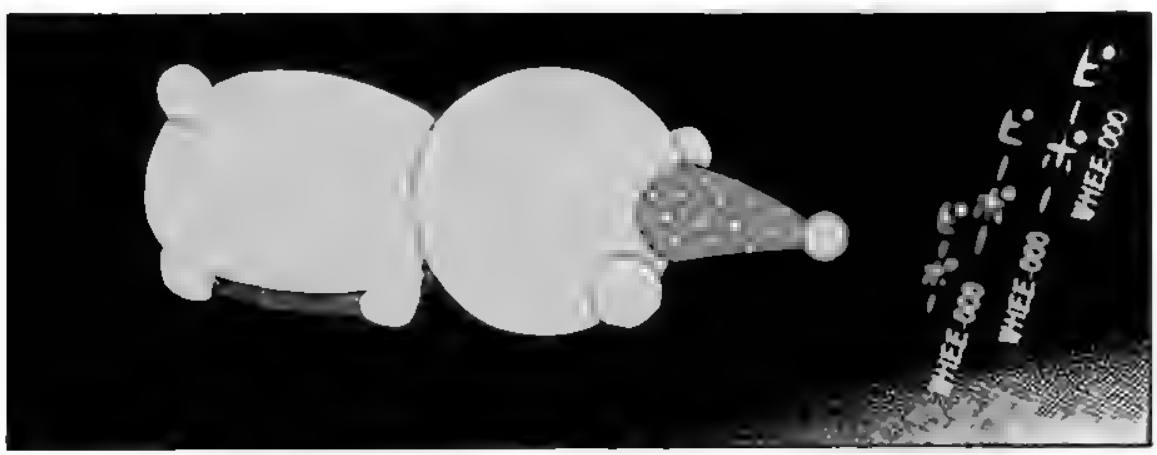
!?
!?
SHUT

FWUMP

Ha ha ha ha
Ha ha ha ha

DRIP

SOB
SOB
SOB


WHEE-OOO
WHEE-OOO
WHEE-OOO

ピーポー
WHEE

WHAT DO I EXPECT? I SLEPT UNTIL EVENING.
I CAN'T SLEEP.

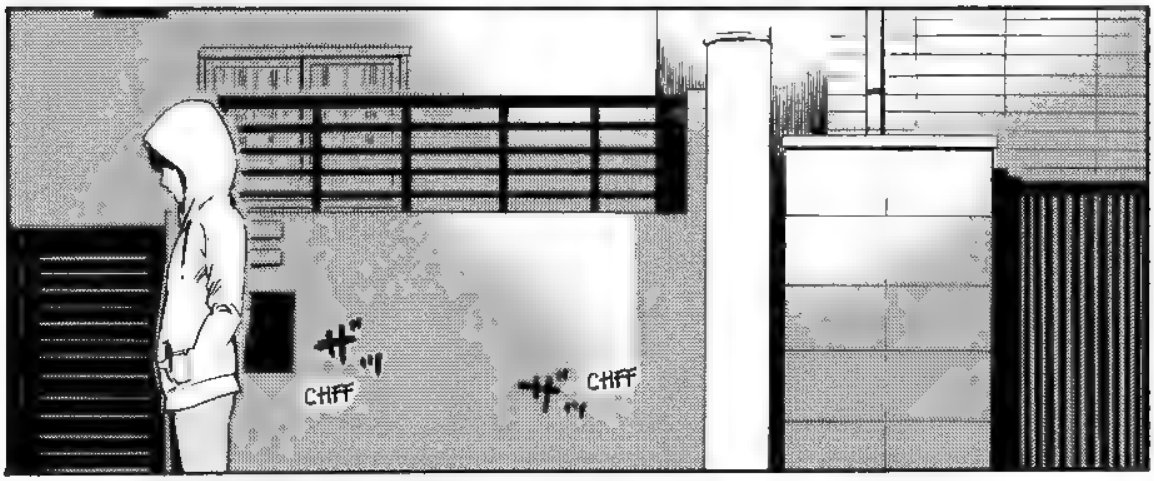
ジャ
RUSTLE

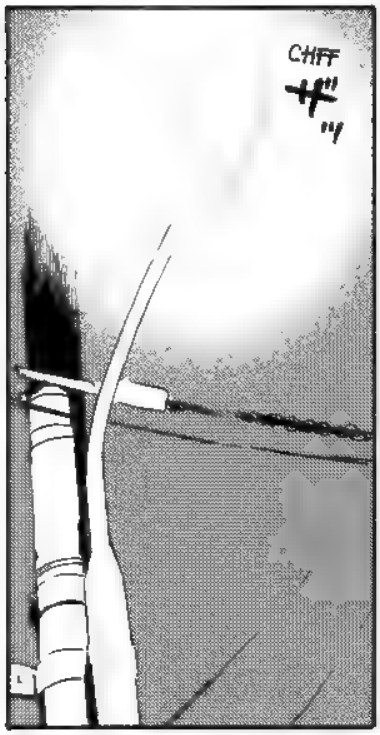
ムク

キイ…
CREAK

カチャ
CLICK

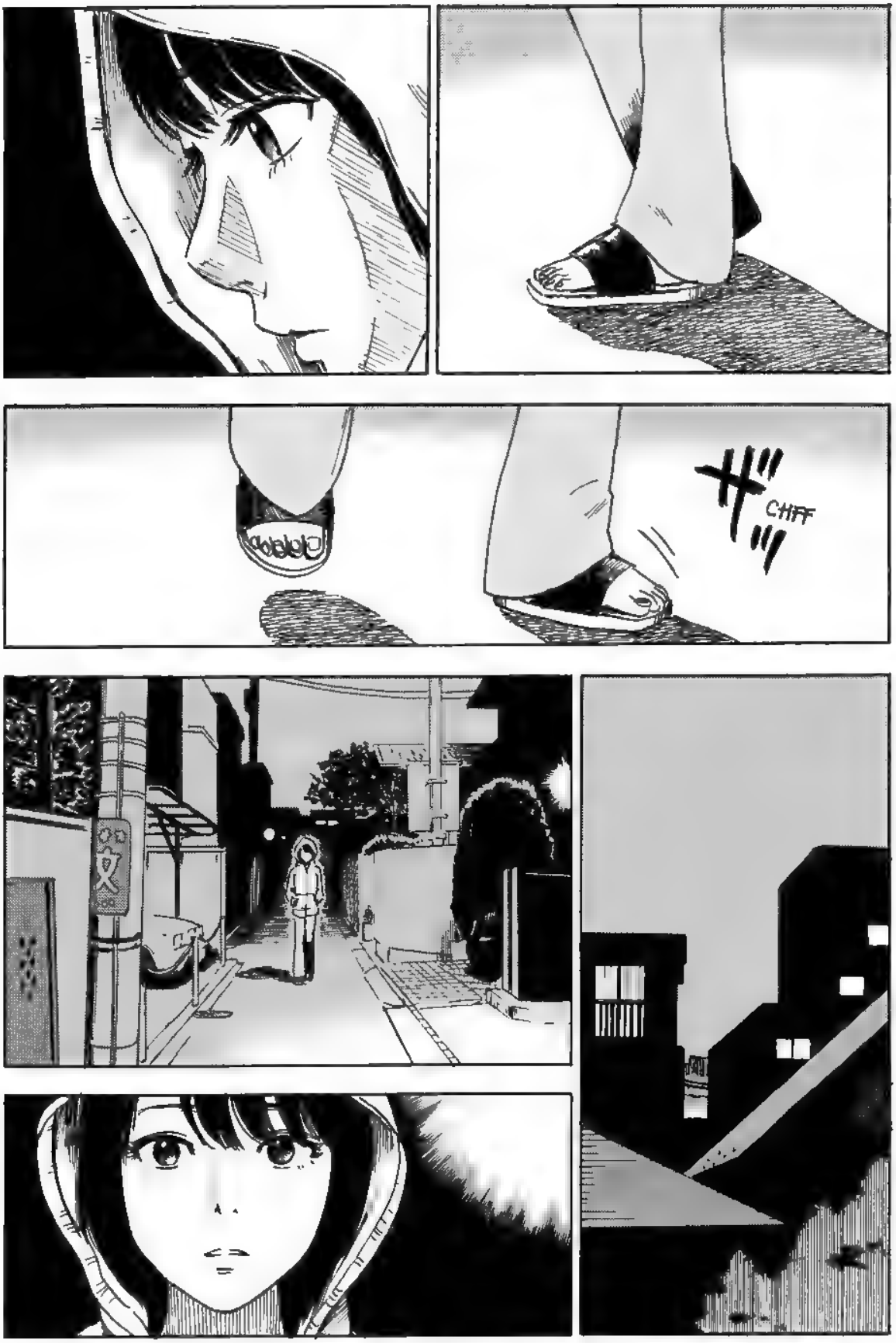
CHIFF
CHIFF
CHIFF

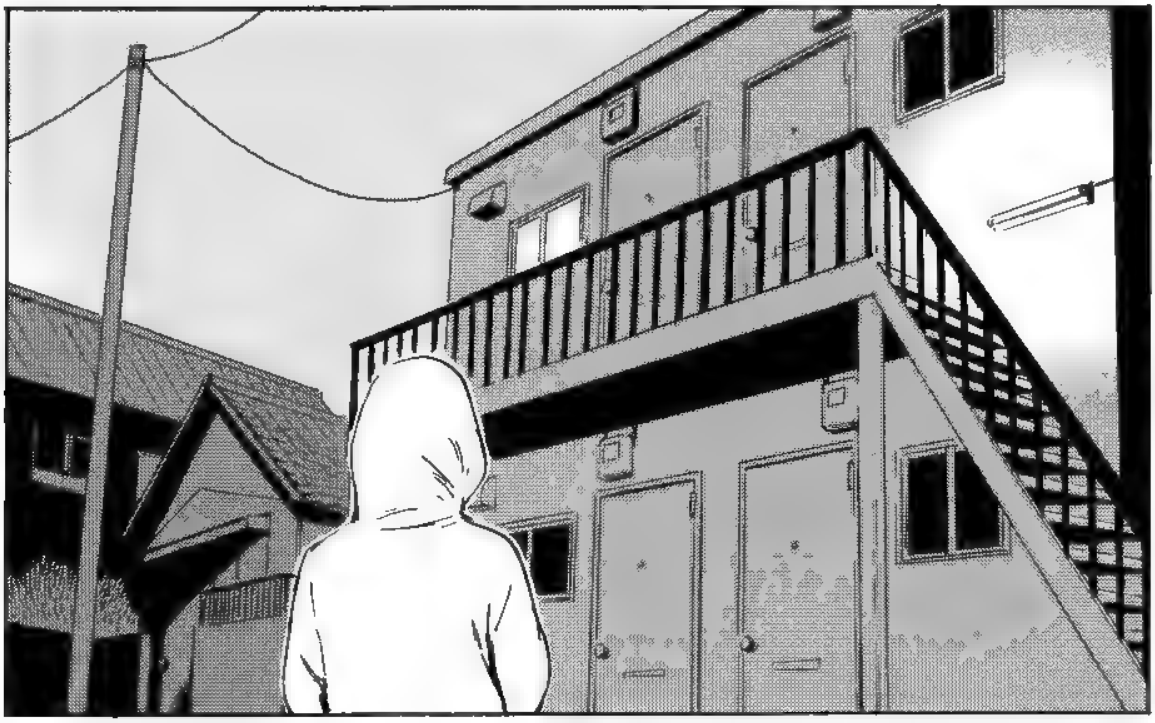

CHIFF
CHIFF


CHIFF

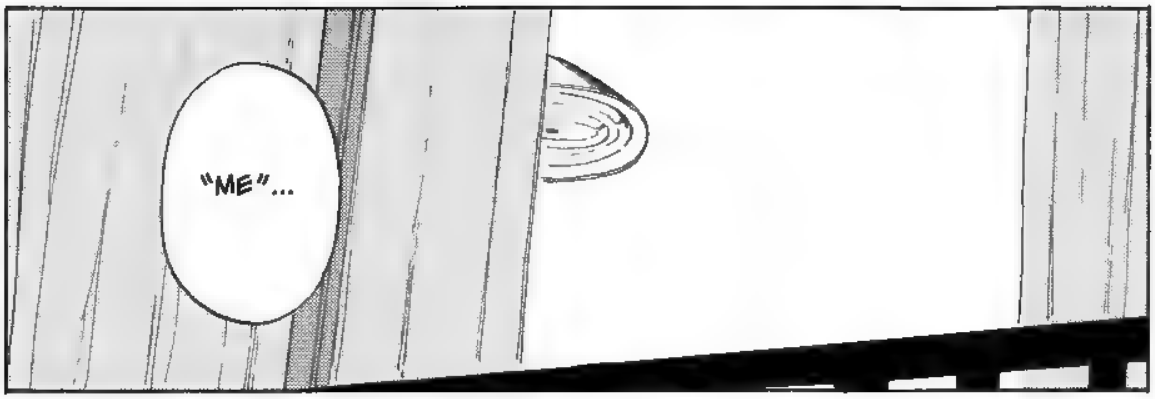
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST TOOK A WALK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
CHIFF

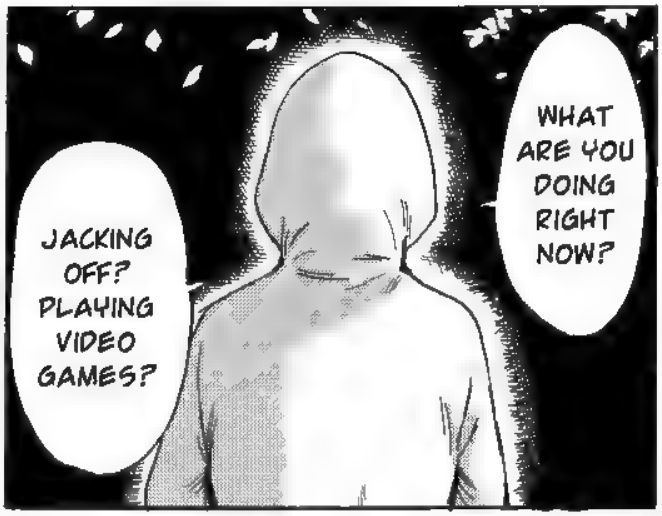
CHIFF

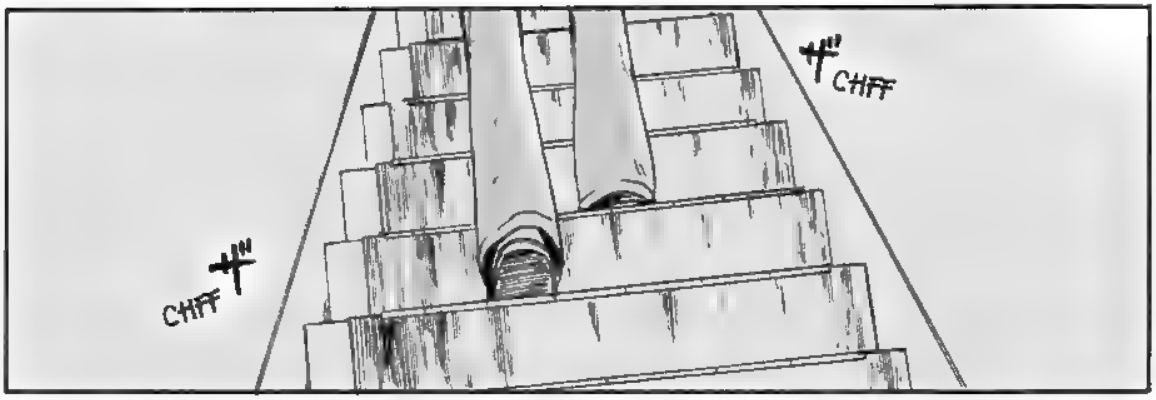

CHIFF

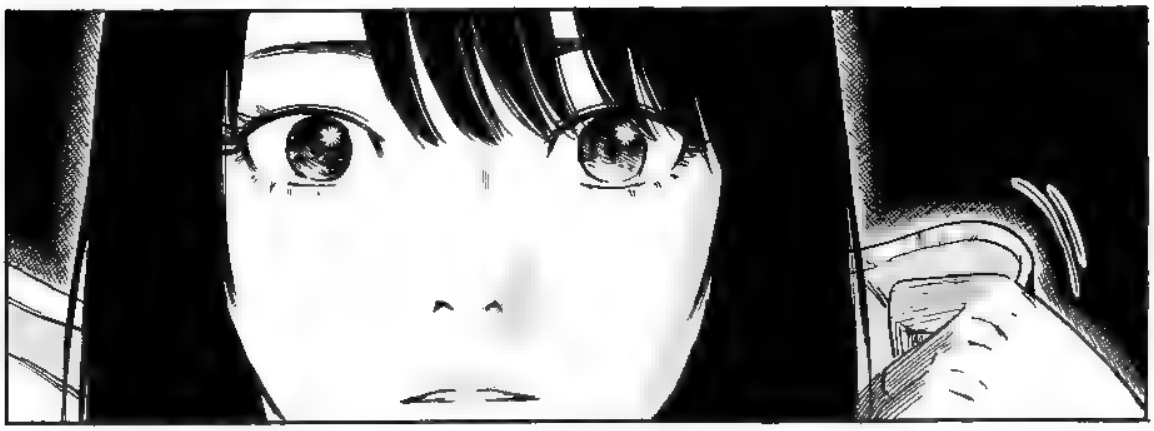


...“ME”...
HEY...


"ME"...


WHAT ARE YOU DOING RIGHT NOW?
JACKING OFF? PLAYING VIDEO GAMES?

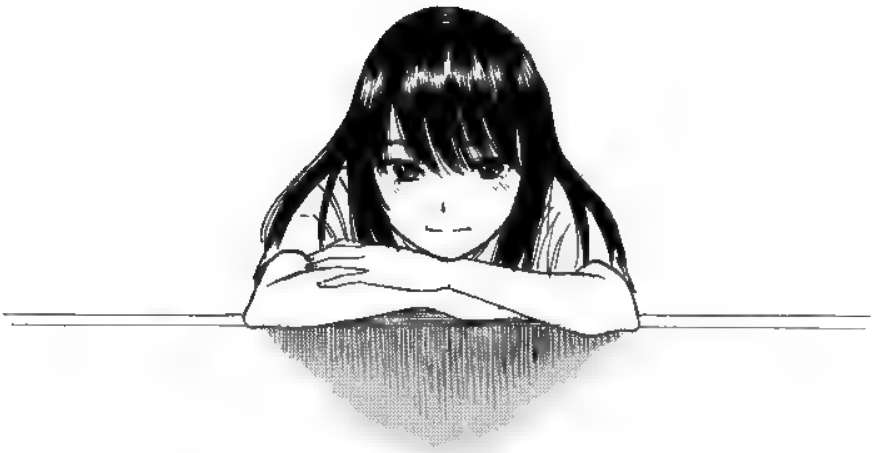

CHIFF
CHIFF



AHH...
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW LUCKY YOU ARE.

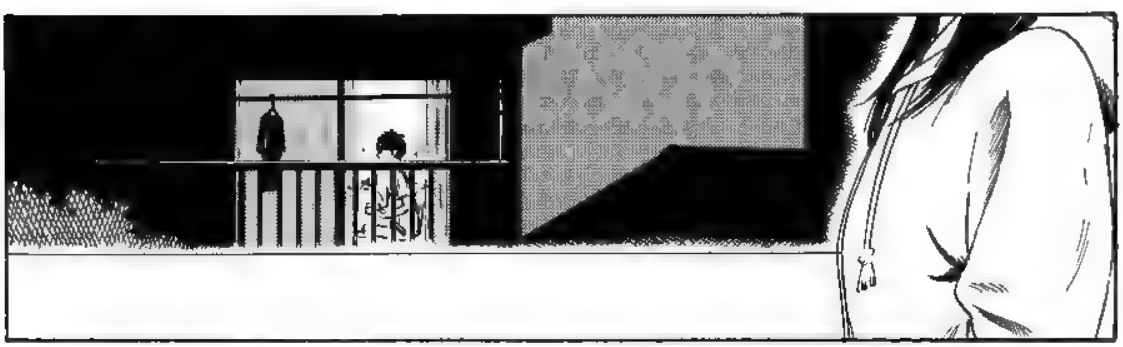
HEY.

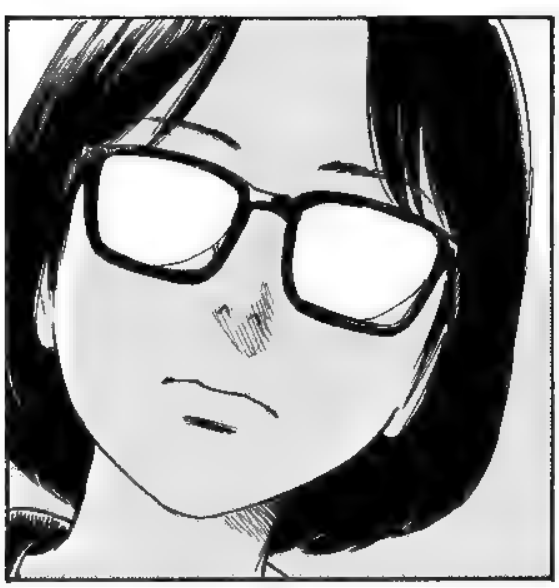
WHAT ARE YOU...
...DOING HERE?



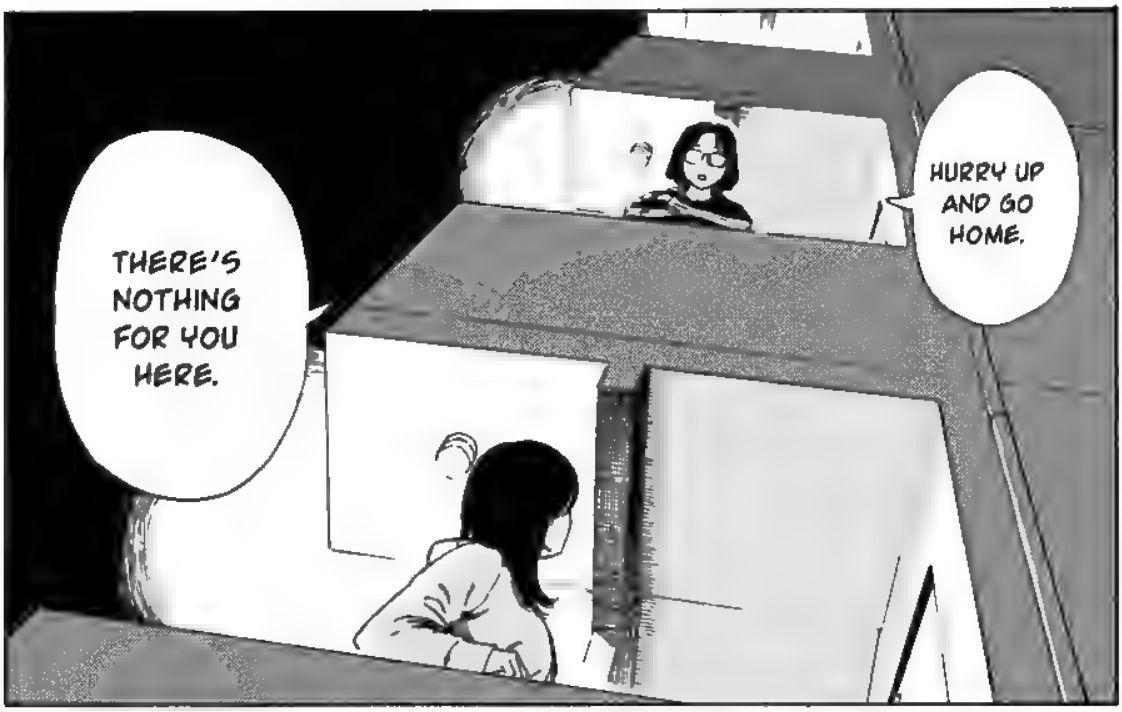
CHAPTER 25: MARI'S MESSAGE

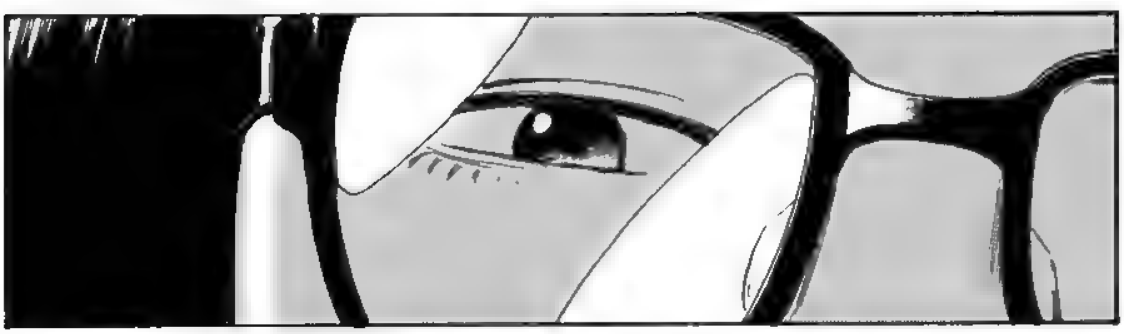
WHAT ARE YOU...
...DOING HERE?



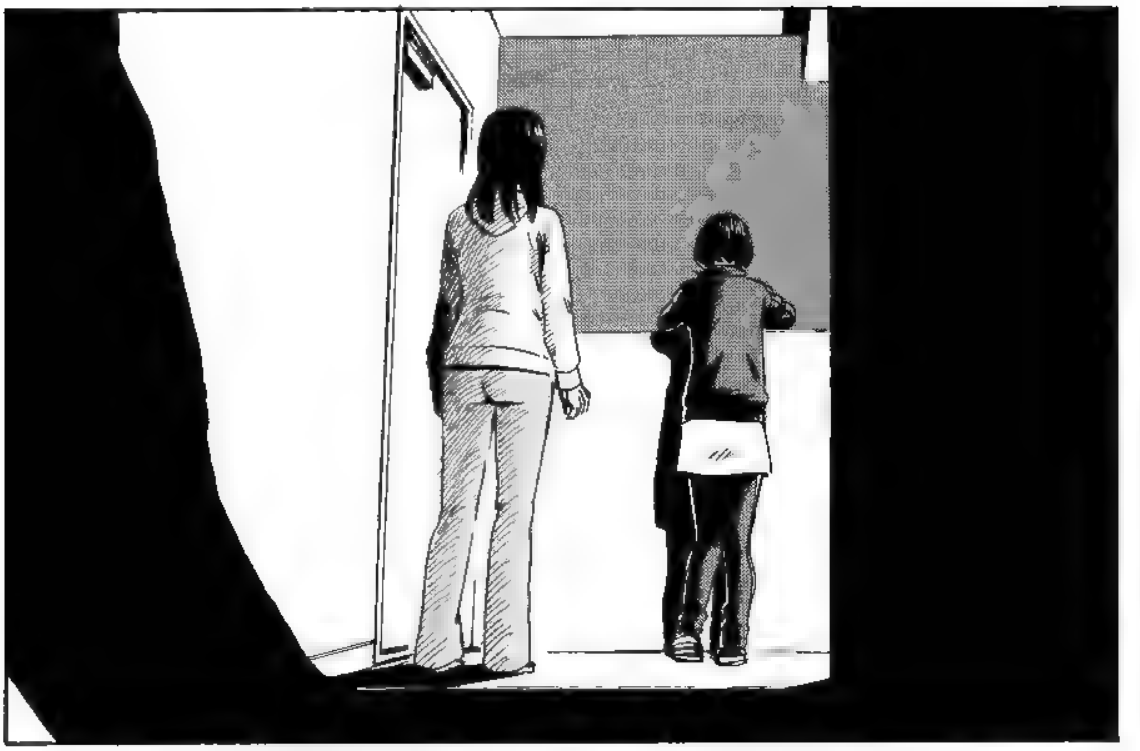


AH...

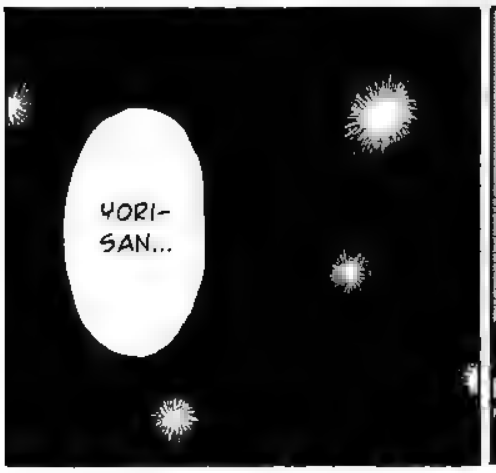

THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU HERE.
HURRY UP AND GO HOME.



SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH

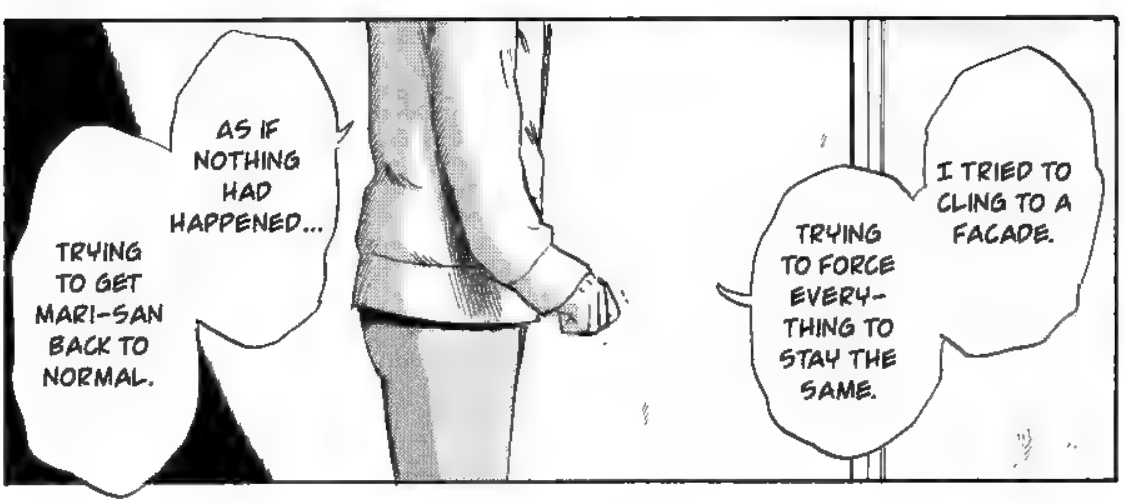


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


YORI-
SAN...

I...
I WAS WRONG.

I TRIED TO HIDE EVERYTHING.


I TRIED TO CLING TO A FACADE.
TRYING TO FORCE EVERY-THING TO STAY THE SAME.
AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED...
TRYING TO GET MARI-SAN BACK TO NORMAL.

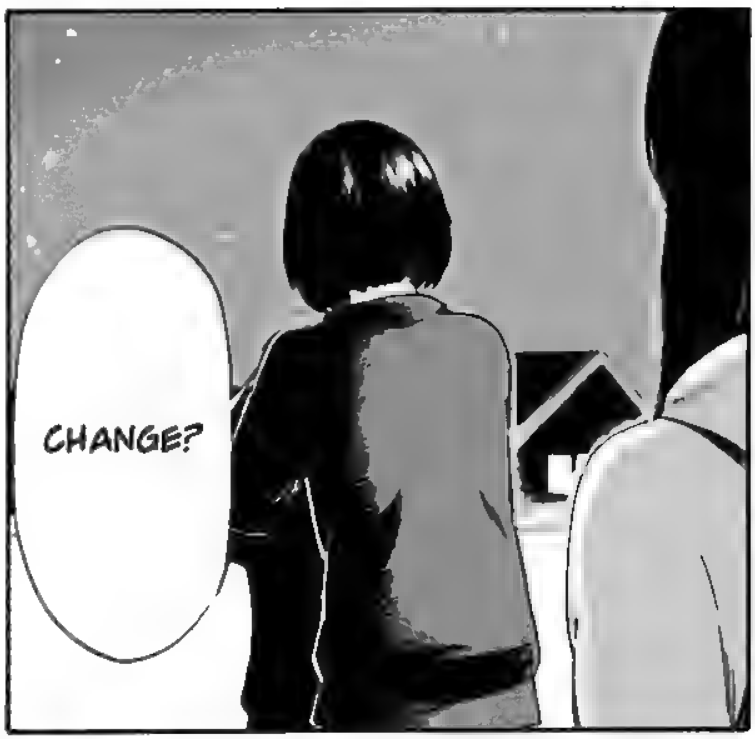
...I CAN'T DO THAT.
BUT...

THE WOUND GETS BIGGER.
...THE WORSE THE SITUATION GETS.
THE MORE I TRY TO HIDE THINGS...

I RUN AWAY FROM THINGS WHEN IT SUITS ME.
I'M A SNAKE...

I WANT TO CHANGE!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO RUN AWAY ANY LONGER!

I'M SORRY.
YORI-SAN...


CHANGE?

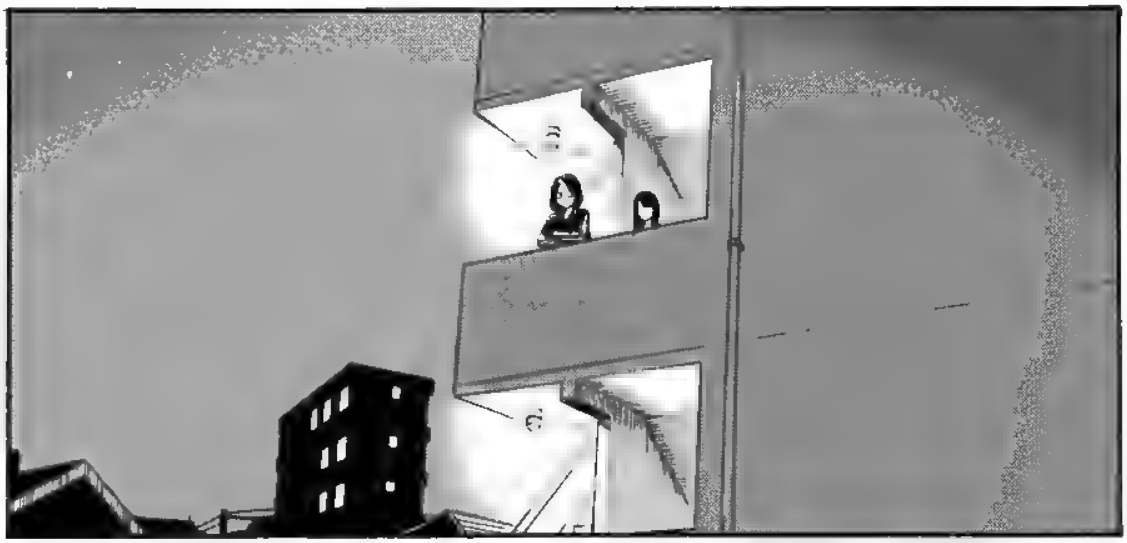
ISAO KOMORI. YOU...
...TO WATCH HIM.
...I'VE COME HERE EVERY DAY...
SINCE THAT DAY...

HE'S SCUM.

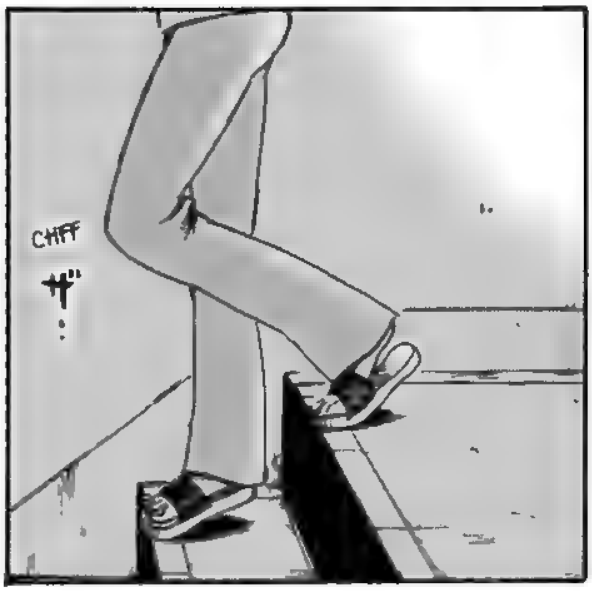
A HUMAN BEING LIKE THAT IS GOING TO CHANGE?
HE SHAME-LESSLY WASTES HIS PARENTS' MONEY...
...JUST SLACKING OFF ALL DAY.

DON'T LIE TO ME.

I'M NOT...



WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE?
JUST GO HOME.


CHFF

I'M SORRY...

KOMORI...

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
...I FOUND SOMETHING HERE.

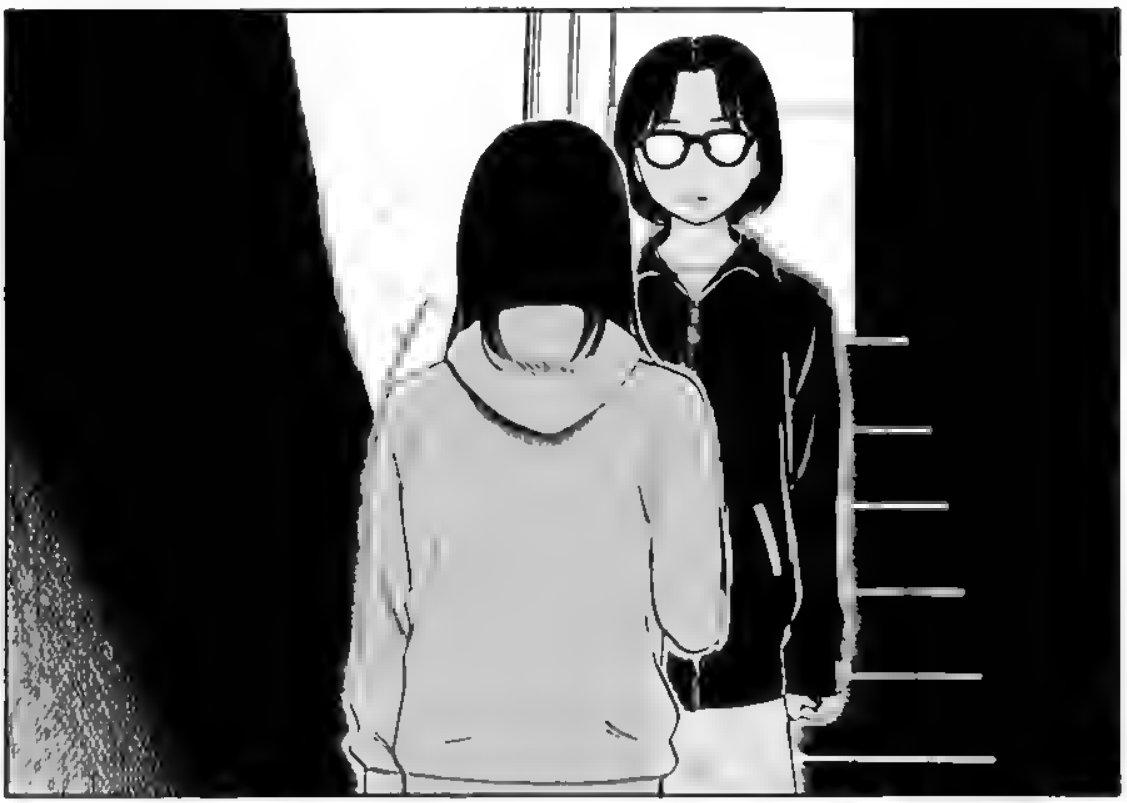
WANT TO SEE IT?

NOD
こくり

Today's
Isao
Komori

Playing video games again. Masturbates while looking at his computer. For dinner, curry with fried pork cutlet from the convenience store. You don't know how good you have it. I hope you never change.

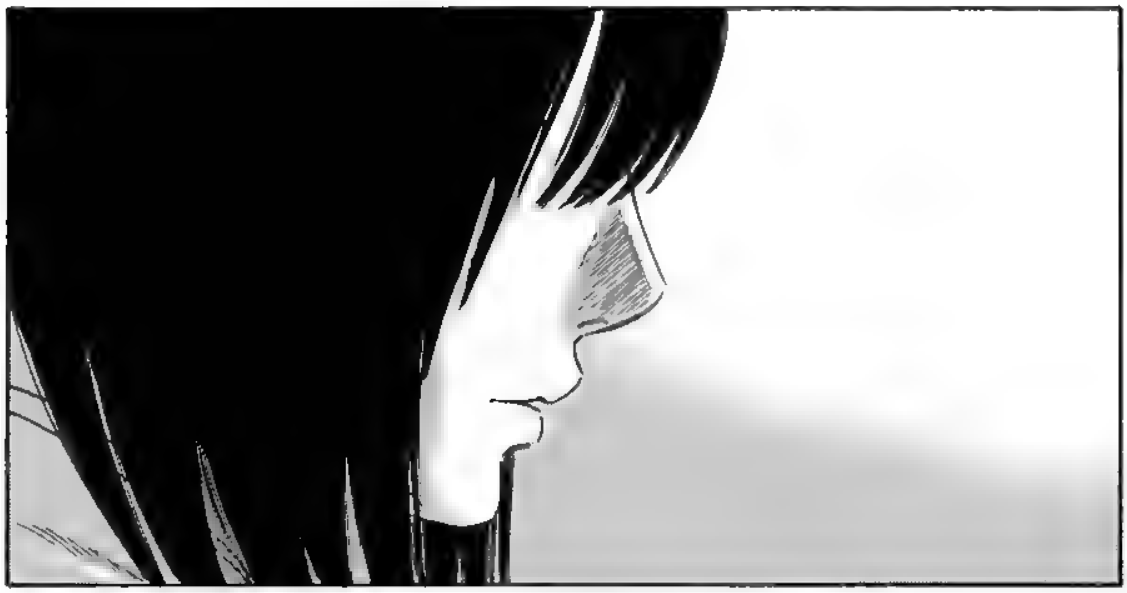
Mari

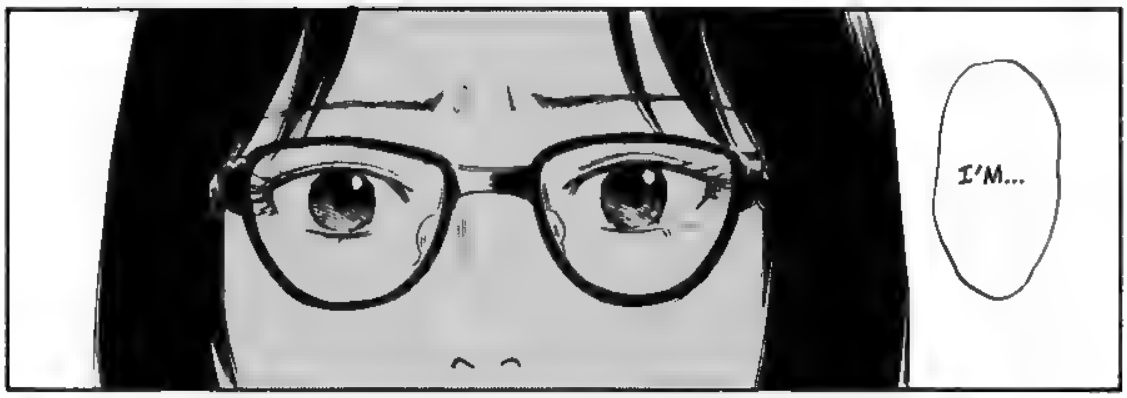


MARI-SAN WAS WATCHING YOU FROM HERE.

WHO KNOWS HOW LONG? COULD'VE BEEN FOR A REALLY LONG TIME...

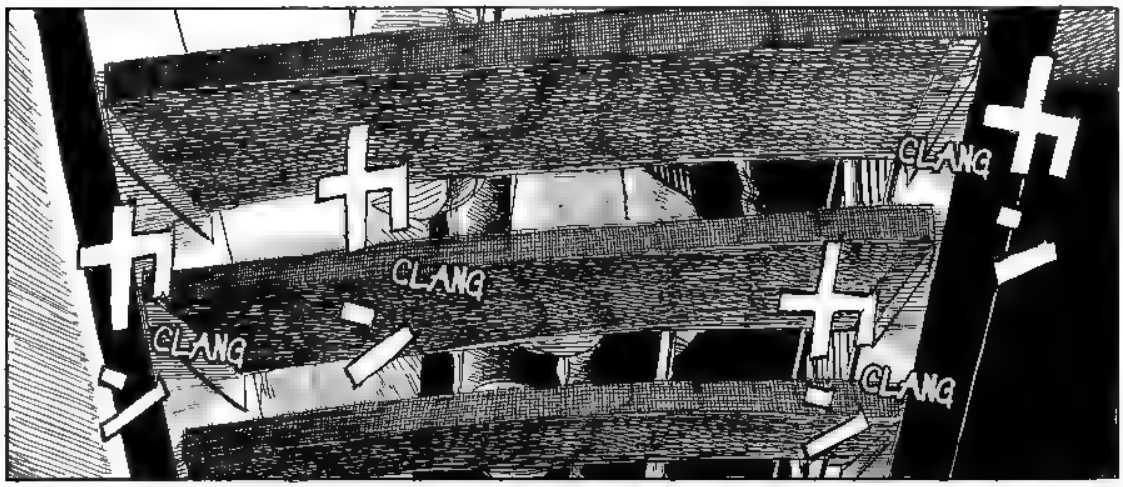
IT WAS ON THE GROUND BY THAT PLANTER.

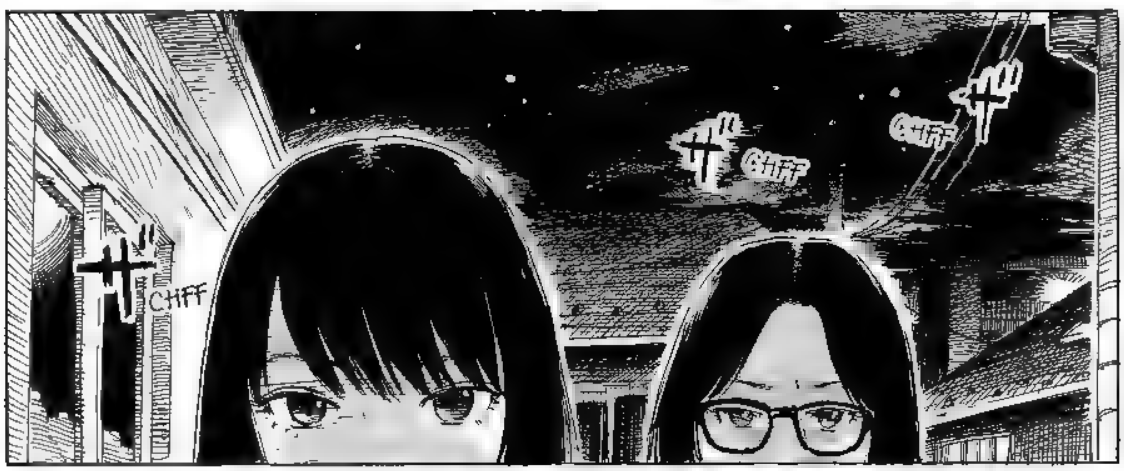


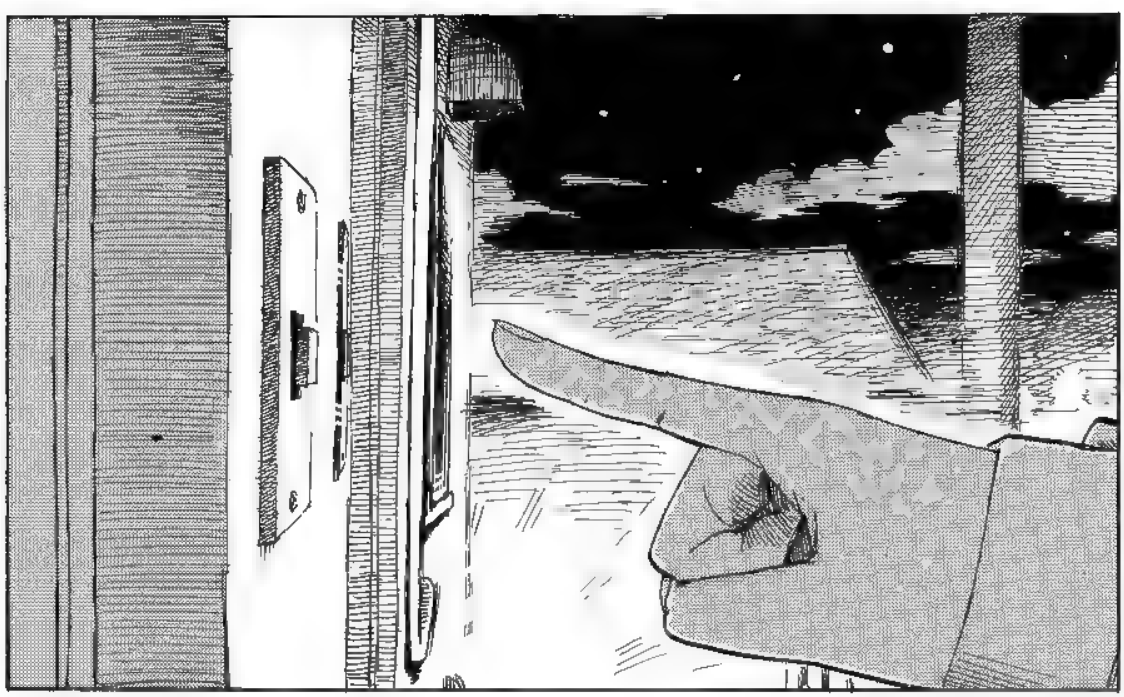

I'M...

...GOING OVER THERE...
...TO TALK TO "MYSELF."

I'M GOING TO...
...LOOK AT MYSELF!


CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG


CHIFF
CHIFF
CHIFF

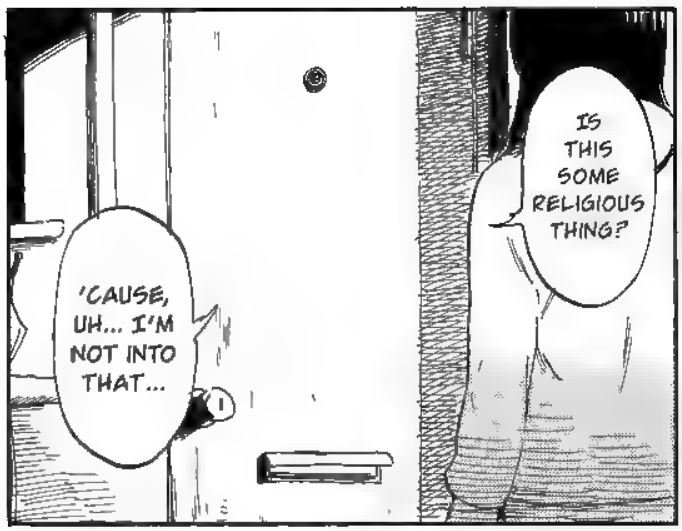


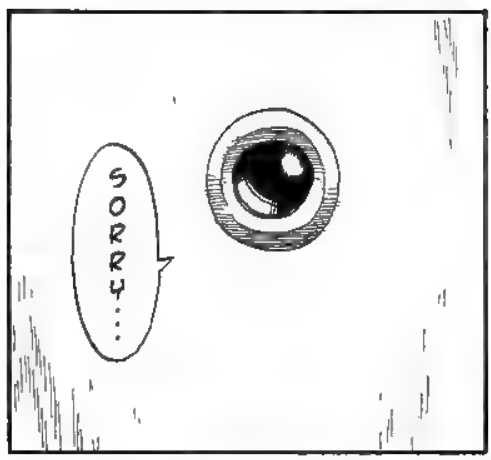
DING
DONG

CHAPTER 26: I FACE MYSELF

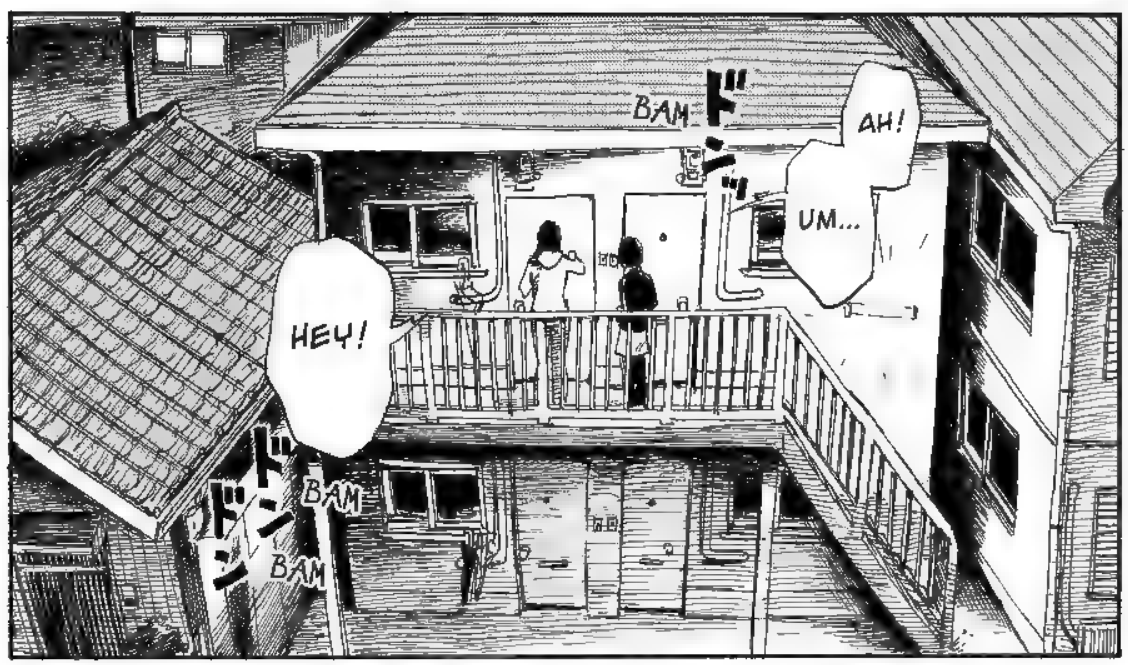
EXCUSE ME!

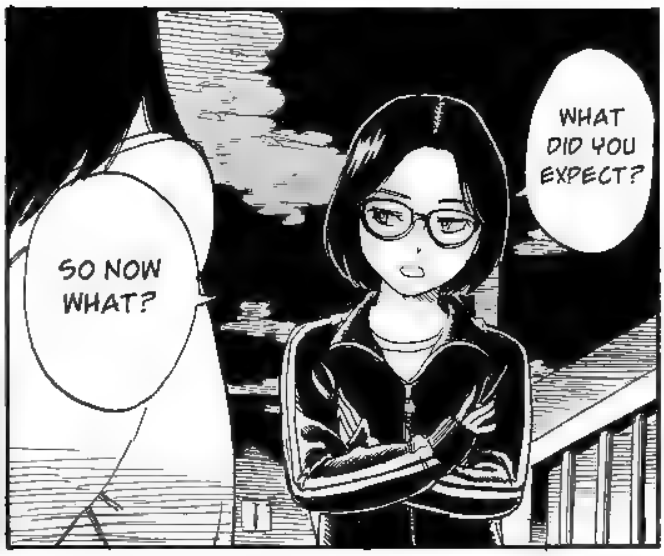
YES?
UM... I'M SORRY THAT IT'S SO LATE...
...BUT I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!
IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT!
IT MAY SOUND STRANGE...
...BUT I'M SERIOUS!


IS THIS SOME RELIGIOUS THING?
'CAUSE, UH... I'M NOT INTO THAT...

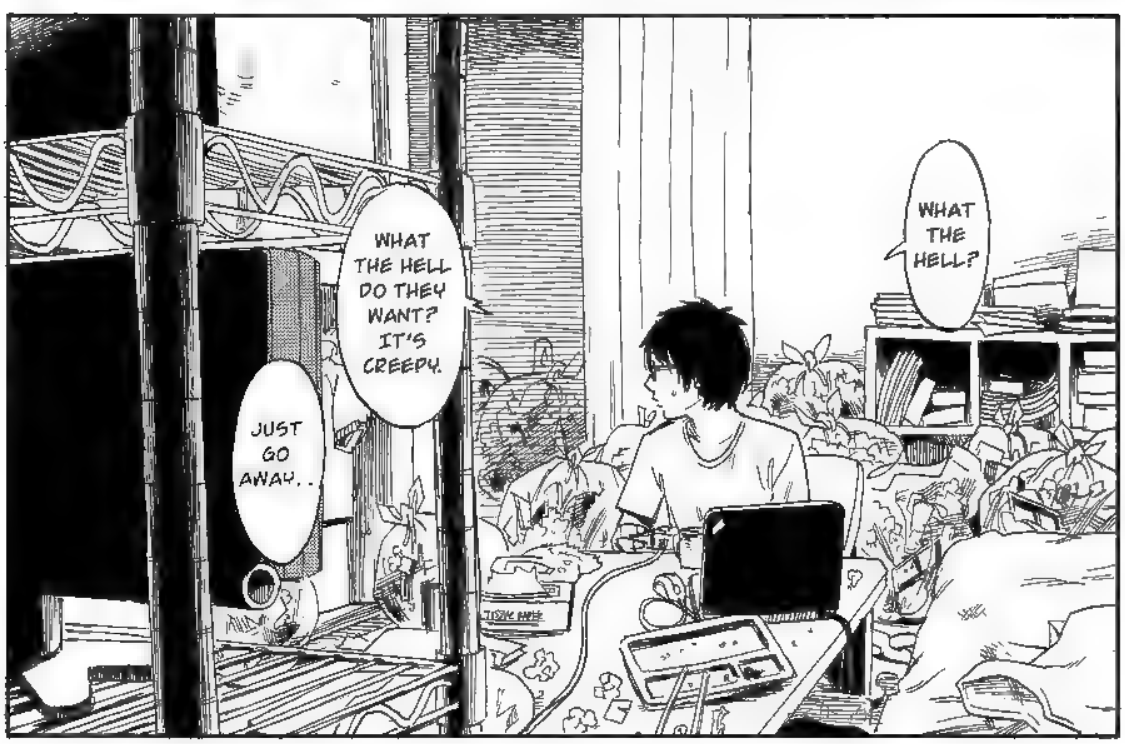

SORRY...

IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!
NO!


BAM ド
AH!
UM...
HEY!
ドン BAM
BAM


SO NOW WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?

KAJUNP


WHAT THE HELL DO THEY WANT? IT'S CREEPY.
JUST GO AWAY..
WHAT THE HELL?

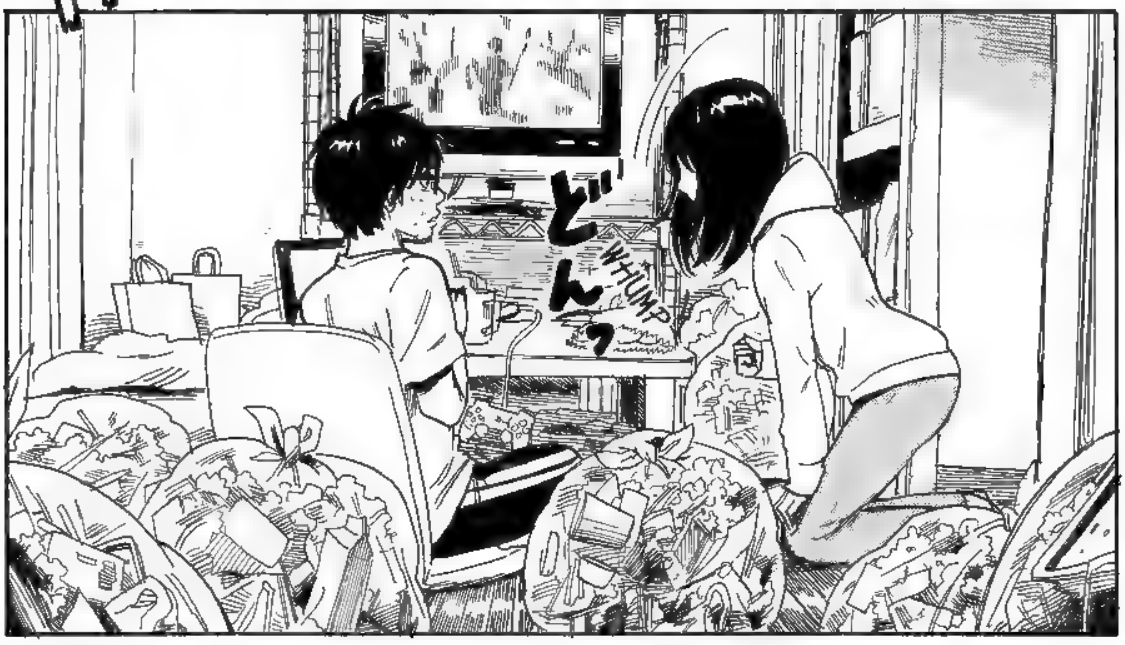
!
CLICK
RATTLE RATTLE

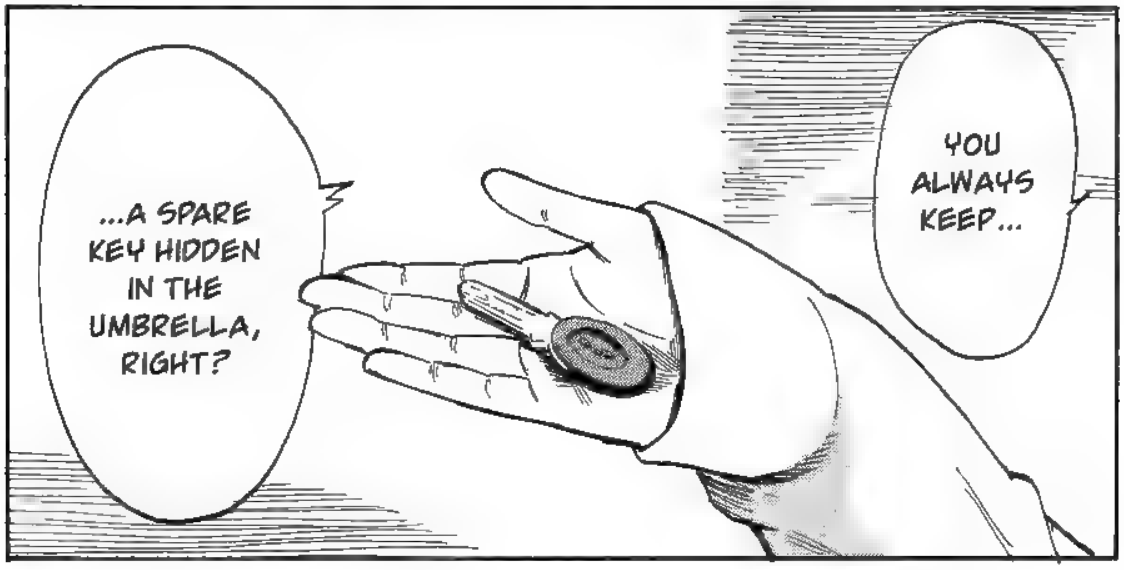
CREAK

THUD
ドカ

HUH?!

とかとかとかとかとかとか
THUD
THUD
THUD


どんっ
WHUMP


...A SPARE KEY HIDDEN IN THE UMBRELLA, RIGHT?
YOU ALWAYS KEEP...

I KNOW THAT...
...BECAUSE I'M YOU.

BECAUSE I'M ISAO KOMORI.

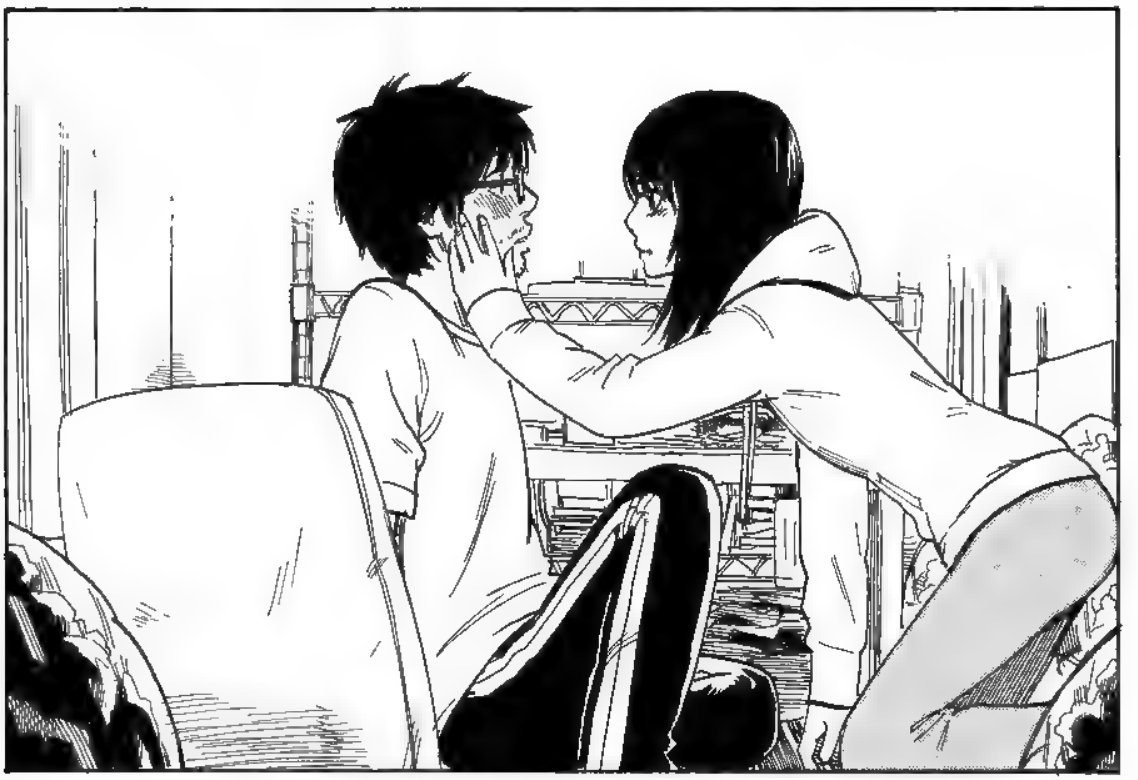
ギシ…
CREAK

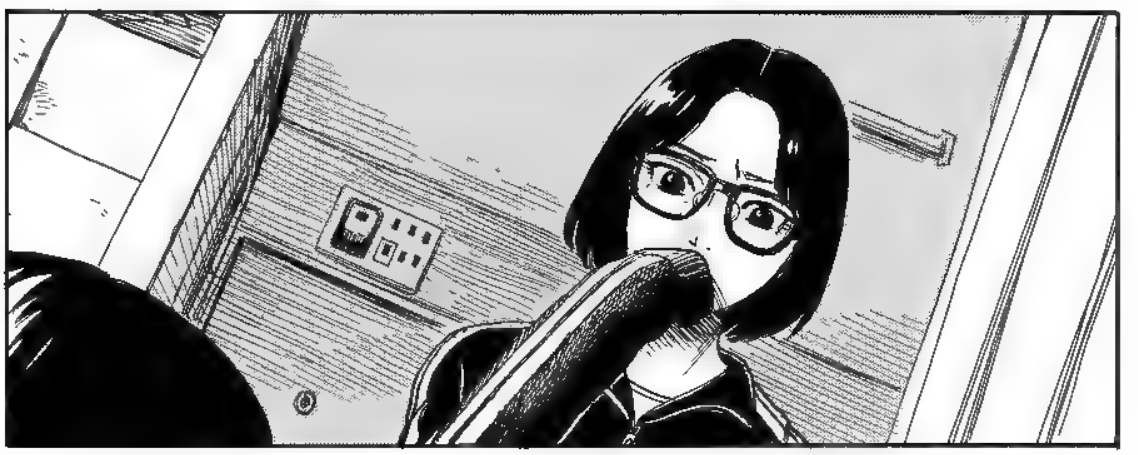
UH…
WHA?

WH… WHAT DID YOU COME INTO MY HOME FOR?
WHAT FOR?! LEAVE…
PLEASE LEA…

AH! NOW I REMEM-BER!
YOU'RE THAT HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WHO WAS SPOUTING NONSENSE TO ME AT THE CONVE-NIENCE STORE!

...VE...





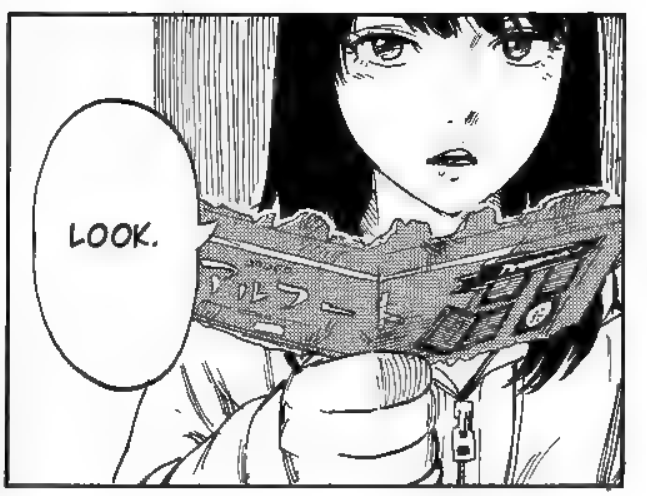
HUH?
AH...

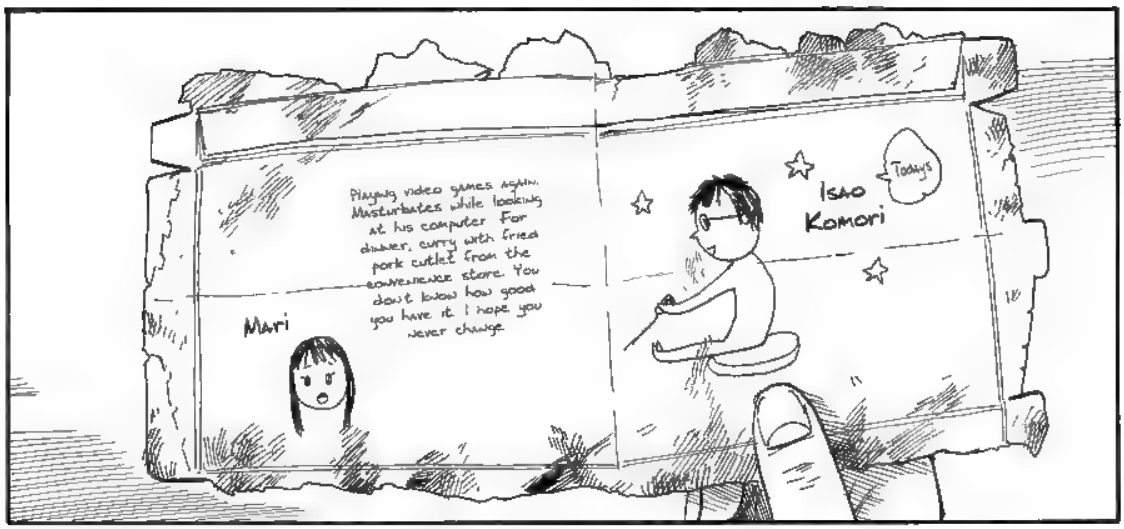
HUH...?

I...
...REALLY DON'T KNOW WHO THIS GIRL IS?

RUSTLE
RUSTLE

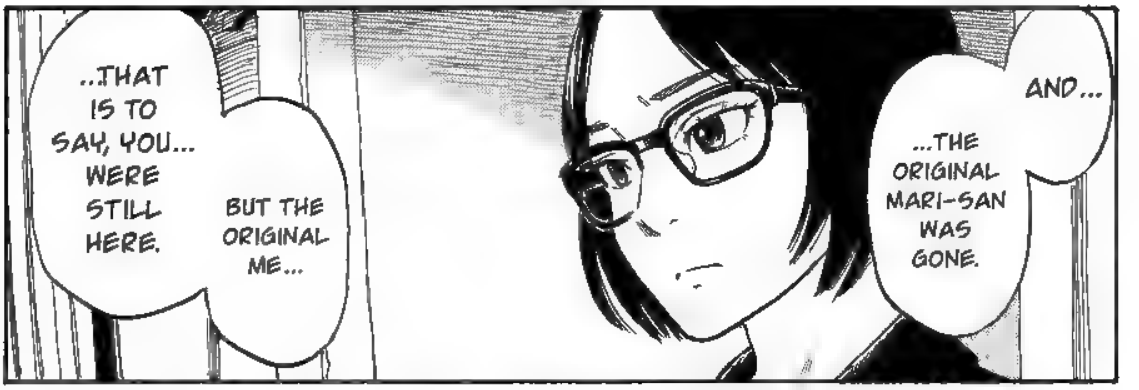
UH...
WHA?


LOOK.


Playing video games again. Masturbates while looking at his computer. For dinner, curry with fried pork cutlet from the convenience store. You don't know how good you have it. I hope you never change.
Mari
Today's
Isao Komori

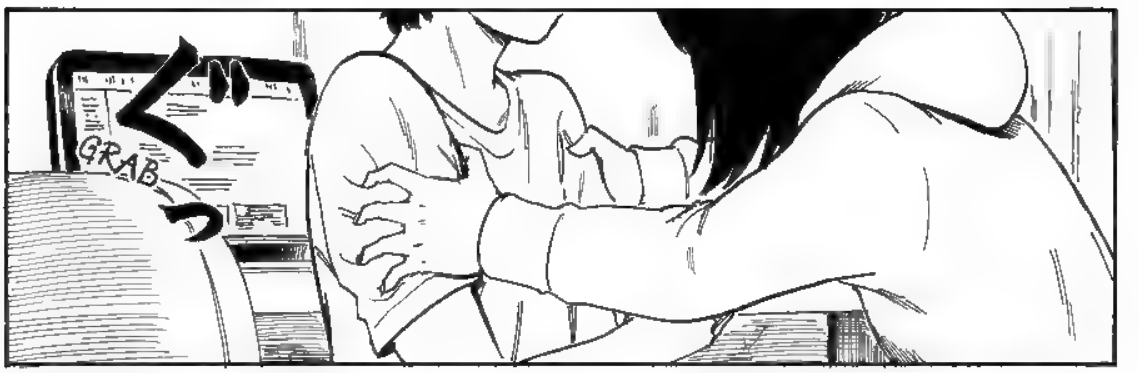
HUH?
WHAT IS THIS?

I WOKE UP ONE MORNING...
...CHANGED INTO MARI-SAN.

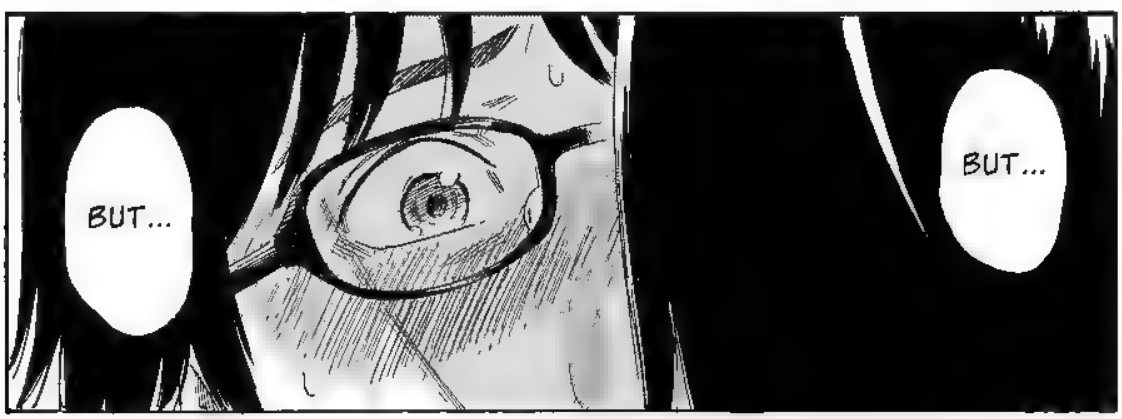

..THAT IS TO SAY, YOU... WERE STILL HERE.
BUT THE ORIGINAL ME...
AND...
...THE ORIGINAL MARI-SAN WAS GONE.

MARI-SAN...

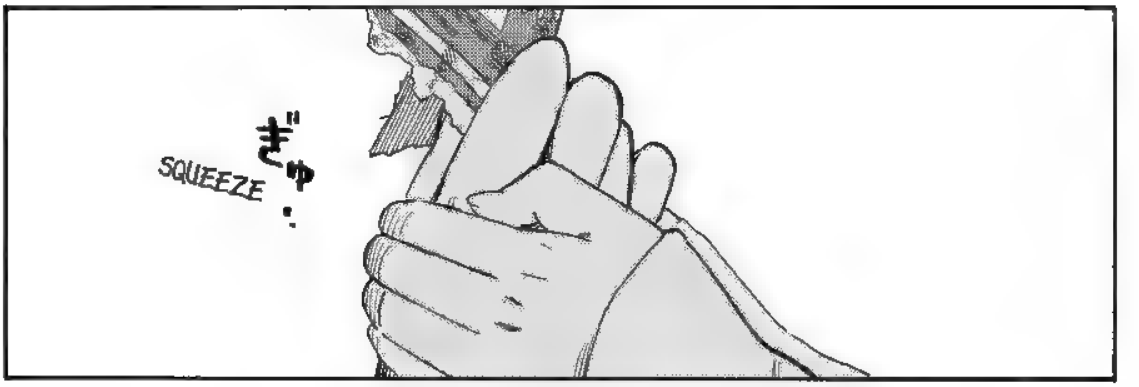
...WATCHED US! SHE NOTICED US!
MARI-SAN...


GRAB

...THAT NO ONE WOULD EVER LOOK AT US, RIGHT?
NO ONE...
YOU THOUGHT...


BUT...
BUT...

BUT...
...YOU'RE ME.
OF COURSE NOT. I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND IT EITHER.
YOU DON'T GET WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DO YOU...?


SQUEEZE
ぎゅ

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW.
HELP ME.

SO MY GUT TELLS ME.
...HAS TO BE INSIDE OF ME. THE ANSWER.
IT...

IF I CAN FIND WHAT THAT IS...
...I THINK I CAN MEET MARI-SAN!
ER...
OKAY?!

YOU'RE... SITTING SO CLOSE.
UM...

to be continued

麻理さんはぼくらを見ててくれたんだぞ……

どうしてこんなことになったのか

ぼくの中に答えがある

きっと

それがわかれば

麻理さんに会えると思うんだ……！

――ぼくらと依は、麻理を見つけられるのか――

ぼくは麻理のなか　第④巻　2014年11月頃発売予定！

エロスふるさと探訪

～あとがきにかえて～

皆さん こんばんは
お読みくださり ありがとうございます

今回は、私にとってエロスとは何か？
記憶をさかのぼり その源流から 辿っていってみたいと思います

私が「一番最初の記憶」として認識しているのは

母親に抱かれて 生まれ故郷の町を 高台から見下ろしている風景です

2才か3才 くらいでしょうか

母親とふたりぎりで なぜそんなところにいたのか？

ちょっと不可解なので これは嘘の記憶かもしれません

しかしえもいわれぬ甘美さのある記憶です

母親にまつわる記憶で 次に強烈な印象なのは

おそらく4才ごろの 次のような記憶です

ふとんの上でおもちゃを一面に散らかして遊んでいた私に
母親がぶち切れたのです
ゴッ
ごめんなさい
ごめんなさい
私は怖くて絶叫しました
しかし母親は聞く耳を持たず
家から私を追い出しました
母親もストレスがたまっていたのでしょう
いくら泣き叫んで謝っても入れてくれませんでした
仕方なく家のそばを流れるドブ川のほとりで
夕焼けの中泣きながら座っておりました
すると

おそらく中学生と思われる女の子2人組が
「大丈夫？」と声をかけてきました
「どうしたの？」
「どうして泣いてるの？」
「お母さんは？」

嬉しかった
こみあげてくる胸の熱さ切なさ
けれどもそれは「自分に注目してもらえた」嬉しさだけじゃなかった

母親に対する怒りや
それを認めてもらえたような誇らしさ
向こうからお姉さんが近付いてきたことへのラッキー感
ちやほやされること人のうぬぼれ、満足感

私はお姉さんたちがより心配してくれるように

一度ひっこみかけた涙をまたほとばしらせました

見透かされないかびくびくしながら

ニヤつきそうなのを押さえこみつつ

「罪悪感」というものをそのとき意識しました

その後どうなったか？

母親が迎えに来てくれたのか自分で帰ったのかハッキリ憶えていませんが

あのときの感覚が私の「エロ」の原点だと今になって思います

孤独や夕暮れ

母親の外側

受け身

否定

自意識や罪悪感といったものがエロに結びついていきました

次回 さらに記憶をひもといてみたいと思います

それでは